



Trump peace plan delights Israelis, enrages Palestinians

By A. HELLER and M. LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump unveiled his long-awaited Mideast peace plan Tuesday alongside a beaming Benjamin Netanyahu, presenting a vision that matched the Israeli leader's hard-line, nationalist views while falling far short of Palestinian ambitions.

Trump's plan envisions a disjointed Palestinian state that turns over key parts of

the West Bank to Israel. It sides with Israel on key contentious issues that have bedeviled past peace efforts, including borders and the status of Jerusalem and Jewish settlements, and attaches nearly impossible conditions for granting the Palestinians their hoped-for state. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas dismissed the plan as "nonsense" and vowed to resist it.

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President Donald Trump shakes hands with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during an event in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020, to announce the Trump administration's much-anticipated plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Associated Press

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Continued from Front

Netanyahu called it a "historic breakthrough" equal in significance to the country's declaration of independence in 1948.

"It's a great plan for Israel. It's a great plan for peace," he said.

He vowed to immediately press forward with his plans to annex the strategic Jordan Valley and all the Israeli settlements in occupied lands. Netanyahu said he'd ask his Cabinet to approve the annexation plans in their next meeting on Sunday, an explosive move that could trigger harsh international reaction and renewed violence with the Palestinians.

"This dictates once and for all the eastern border of Israel," Netanyahu told Israeli reporters later. "Israel is getting an immediate American recognition of Israeli sovereignty on all the settlements, without exceptions."

Given the Palestinian opposition, the plan seems unlikely to lead to any significant breakthrough. But it could give a powerful boost to both Trump and Netanyahu who are both facing legal problems ahead of tough elections. Trump called his plan a "win-win" for both Israel and the Palestinians, and urged the Palestinians not to miss their opportunity for independence. But Ab-

bas, who accuses the U.S. of unfair bias toward Israel, rejected it out of hand.

"We say 1,000 no's to the Deal of the Century," Abbas said, using a nickname for Trump's proposal.

"We will not kneel and we will not surrender," he said, adding that the Palestinians would resist the plan through "peaceful, popular means."

The plan comes amid Trump's impeachment trial and on a U.S. election year, and after Netanyahu was indicted on counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery in three separate cases. The longtime Israeli leader, who denies any wrongdoing, also faces a March 2 parliamentary election, Israel's third in less than a year. He hopes to use the plan, and his close ties with Trump, to divert attention from his legal troubles.

The Palestinians seek all of the West Bank and east Jerusalem — areas captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war — for an independent state and the removal of many of the more than 700,000 Israeli settlers from these areas.

But as details emerged, it became clear that the plan sides heavily with Netanyahu's hard-line nationalist vision for the region and shunts aside many of the Palestinians' core demands.

Under the terms of the "peace vision" that Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner has been working on for nearly three years, all settlers would remain in place, and Israel would retain sovereignty over all of its settlements as well as the strategic Jordan Valley.

"The Israeli military will continue to control the entire



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas speaks after a meeting of the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank city of Ramallah. Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2020.

Associated Press

territory," Netanyahu said. "No one will be uprooted from their home."

The proposed Palestinian state would also include more than a dozen Israeli "enclaves" with the entity's borders monitored by Israel. It would be demilitarized and give Israel overall security control. In addition, the areas of east Jerusalem offered to the Palestinians consist of poor, crowded neighborhoods located behind a hulking concrete separation barrier.

The plan would give the Palestinians limited control over an estimated 70% of the West Bank, nearly double the amount where they currently have limited self-rule. Trump said it would give them time needed to meet the challenges of statehood.

The only concession the plan appears to demand of Israel is a four-year freeze on the establishment of new Israeli settlements in certain areas of the West Bank. But Netanyahu clarified later that this only applied to areas where there are no settlements and Israel has no immediate plans to annex, and that he con-

sidered the plan to impose no limitations on construction. Thousands of Palestinians protested in Gaza City ahead of the announcement, burning pictures of Trump and Netanyahu and raising a banner reading "Palestine is not for sale." Trump said he sent a letter to Abbas to tell him that the territory that the plan has set aside for a new Palestinian state will remain open and undeveloped for four years.

"It's going to work," Trump said, as he presented the plan at a White House ceremony filled with Israeli officials and allies, including evangelical Christian leaders and wealthy Republican donors. Representatives from the Arab countries of Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates were present, but there were no Palestinian representatives.

"President Abbas, I want you to know, that if you chose the path to peace, America and many other countries ... we will be there to help you in so many different ways," he said. "And we will be there every step of the way." □

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Pentagon: 50 troops suffered brain injuries in Iran strike



In this Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 file photo taken from a helicopter shows Ain al-Asad air base in the western Anbar desert, Iraq.
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon on Tuesday raised to 50 the number of U.S. service members who suffered traumatic brain injuries in Iran's missile strike earlier this month on an Iraqi air base, the third time the number of injuries has been increased.

The new casualty total belies President Donald Trump's initial claim that no Americans were harmed. Days after the attack, the military said 11 service members were injured. Last week, the Pentagon said that 34 U.S. service members were hurt.

Lt. Col. Thomas Campbell, a Pentagon spokesman, said Tuesday that 16 additional service members were diagnosed with traumatic brain injury. Of the 50, Campbell said, 31 service members had returned to duty.

The service members were treated in Iraq, or at military health centers, including Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, the largest U.S. military hospital outside the continental United States,

and a U.S. military medical facility in Kuwait.

Trump had initially said he was told that no troops had been injured in the Jan. 8 missile strike on Iraq's Ain al-Asad air base, which Iran carried out as retaliation for a U.S. drone strike in Baghdad that killed Iran's most powerful general, Qassem Soleimani, on Jan. 3. The military said symptoms of concussion or traumatic brain injury were not immediately reported after the strike and in some cases became known days later. Many were in bunkers before nearly a dozen Iranian ballistic missiles exploded. After the Pentagon reported on Jan. 17 that 11 service members had been evacuated from Iraq with concussion-like symptoms, Trump said, "I heard they had headaches and a couple of other things ... and I can report it is not very serious."

He said he did not consider the injuries to be as severe as those suffered by troops who were hit by roadside bombs in Iraq.

Traumatic brain injury, or TBI, became a bigger concern for the military in recent years as medical science improved its understanding of its causes and effects on brain function. It can involve varying degrees

of impairment of thinking, memory, vision, hearing and other functions.

The severity and duration of the injury can vary widely. The Defense Department has said more than 375,000 incidents of TBI occurred in

the military between the years 2000 and 2018.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says a severe TBI may lead to death or result in an extended period of coma or amnesia. □

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The Capitol is seen as defense arguments by the Republicans resume in the impeachment trial of President Donald Trump on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, in Washington, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020.

Associated Press

Budget deficit to break \$1 trillion despite strong economy

By ANDREW TAYLOR
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An annual congressional report says the U.S. budget deficit is likely to burst through the symbolic \$1 trillion barrier this year despite a healthy economy. Tuesday's Congressional Budget Office report follows a burst of new spend-

ing last year and the repeal in December of several taxes used to help finance the Affordable Care Act. Those have combined to deepen the government's deficit spiral well on into the future, with trillion-dollar deficits likely for as far as the eye can see.

The annual CBO update of the government's economic and fiscal health estimates a \$1 trillion deficit for the ongoing fiscal year, which would bring the red ink above \$1 trillion for the first time since 2012, when former President Barack Obama capped four consecutive years of \$1 trillion-plus budget deficits. The government, slated to spend \$4.6 trillion this year, would have to borrow 22 cents of every dollar it spends.

Most economists say the most relevant way to look at the deficit is to measure it against the size of the economy, with deficits at 3 percent or so of gross domestic product seen as sustainable. The latest report shows deficits averaging 4.8 percent of GDP over the course of the coming decade.

"As a result of those deficits, federal debt would rise each year, reaching a percentage of the nation's output that is unprecedented in U.S. history," the CBO report says.

Obama's deficits came as the U.S. economy recovered from the deep recession of 2007-2009.

The return of trillion-dollar deficit now comes as the economy is humming on all cylinders, with the CBO predicting that the jobless rate nationwide will average below 4 percent through at least 2022. The

growth rate is predicted to hit average 2.2 percent this year.

"The economy's performance makes the large and growing deficit all the more noteworthy," said CBO Director Phillip Swagel. "Changes in fiscal policy must be made to address the budget situation, because our debt is growing on an unsustainable path."

The government reported a \$984 billion deficit for the 2019 budget year. Cumulative deficits over the coming decade are expected to total \$13 trillion — a total that would have gone higher save for CBO's belief that yields on Treasury notes will remain unusually low as the government refinances its \$23 trillion debt. The recent surge in the deficit has followed passage of the 2017 Trump tax bill, which has failed to pay for itself with additional economic growth and revenues as promised by administration figures like Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. The surge in deficits also follows a final rewrite last summer of a failed 2011 budget deal to increase spending of both defense and domestic programs.

CBO holds a traditional view of economists that debt that's too high has a "crowding out" effect on private sector investment in the economy and can lead to higher interest rates and maybe even a European-style debt crisis. But interest rates have remained low despite CBO's alarms and more liberal economists hold a much more dovish view of the effects of higher deficits on the economy. □

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Man accused of killing missing wife is in critical condition

By **CHRIS EHLMANN and DAVE COLLINS**

Associated Press

FARMINGTON, Conn. (AP)

— A Connecticut man charged with murdering his estranged wife was hospitalized in critical condition Tuesday after being found unresponsive in a vehicle inside his garage, authorities said. Fotis Dulos was found when officers went to his house in Farmington because he was late for a bond hearing in the murder case. He is being treated for carbon monoxide poisoning, according to Farmington Police Lt. Tim McKenzie, who would not confirm if it was a suicide attempt.

Dulos and his wife, Jennifer Dulos, were going through bitter divorce and child custody proceedings when she vanished months ago. He has denied any role in the disappearance of his wife, who hasn't been seen since she dropped their five children off at their New Canaan school in May. The children, who ranged in age from 8 to 13 when their mother vanished, have been staying with their maternal grandmother in New York City. Officers and emergency medical responders converged on Dulos' stately home in the wealthy Hartford suburb around noon Tuesday, and confusion ensued because Dulos' attorney, Norm Pat-

tis, and others initially said that he was dead. Pattis later said he was told his client had a pulse and was being taken to a hospital.

"Typically, CPR will be performed for a period of time," McKenzie said. "If there is any type of life present, the patient will be transported to a hospital, and that's what happened today." Aerial footage of Dulos' home showed officials erecting tents in the driveway, while several people milled about. He was later flown by helicopter to the Jacobi Medical Center in New York City for treatment. Detectives are interviewing witnesses as part of the investigation. Dulos was alone inside the house when police responded.

Pattis told NBC News that Dulos faced "devastating news" that his bond may be revoked Tuesday and he could be sent to jail to await trial. "Questions had arisen regarding the collateral to post the \$6 million bond, and we were ordered to appear in court at noon," Pattis told the network. Dulos, 52, pleaded not guilty earlier this month to murder and kidnapping charges. He had posted a \$6 million bond and was under house arrest.

In filings in the divorce case, Jennifer Dulos said she was worried for her safety and that of the couple's chil-

dren. Police allege Fotis Dulos lay in wait at Jennifer Dulos' home in New Canaan for her to return after dropping the children off. Authorities say Fotis Dulos attacked the woman in her garage, leaving behind a bloody crime scene, and drove off with her body, which has not been found. □



In this Dec. 4, 2019, file photo, Fotis Dulos, charged with murdering his estranged and missing wife, is questioned during testimony in a civil case at Hartford Superior Court in Hartford, Conn.

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U.S. beefs up screening of travelers for new virus from China

By LAURAN NEERGAARD and RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. health officials offered a reality check Tuesday about the scary new virus from China: They're expanding screenings of international travelers and taking other precautions but for now, they insist the risk to Americans is very low.

"At this point Americans should not worry for their own safety," Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar told reporters Tuesday.

China has confirmed more than 4,500 people with the respiratory illness, which in severe cases can cause pneumonia, with dozens more counted in other countries. In the U.S. so far, there are five confirmed patients, all of whom had traveled to the hardest-hit part of China — and no sign that they have spread the illness to anyone around them.

Still, "this is a very fast-moving, constantly changing situation," Azar added.

Flanked by the government's top infection specialists, Azar listed the biggest unanswered questions of the outbreak and tried to tamp down some of the fear and speculation provoked by China's rising toll: —How deadly is this new virus? China's death toll has passed 100 but the first patients counted in an outbreak "are naturally the most severe cases" and "skew our understanding," Azar cautioned. Over time, if doctors find many more people had just a mild, cold-like illness, the death rate will change.



Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar speaks at a news conference about the federal government's response to a virus outbreak originating in China, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020, in Washington. Standing alongside Azar are National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, from left, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield and National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Disease Director Nancy Messonnier.

Associated Press

—How easily does it spread? One way to measure that is an estimate of how many people could catch an infection from one contagious patient. Some reports have suggested that number might be between 1.5 and 3.5 for the new coronavirus, but Azar stressed it's too soon to know. For comparison, one patient with measles could spread it to 12 to 18 others, he added.

—What about silent carriers? Reports from China suggest some people may have spread the virus before showing symptoms. And Germany on Tuesday said a man with the virus near Munich never traveled to China or had close contact with anyone showing symptoms. Instead, he may have been infected

by a coworker from China who briefly visited for a company training session and didn't report feeling ill until her flight home. Later authorities confirmed three additional cases from the German company, all connected to the first.

Some viruses, such as the flu, can spread before symptoms are obvious. But there's no evidence it's happened with the new virus in the U.S., where health officials are checking contacts of the sick. And epidemics are driven by the openly sick, said Dr. Anthony Fauci, infectious disease chief of the National Institutes of Health.

Still, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention wants to send its own scientists to visit China for a first-hand look try to an-

swer those questions. On Tuesday, the World Health Organization said it hopes to send in international experts soon.

Without a vaccine or treatments, the world is depending on tried-and-true public health steps to tamp down the outbreak — finding the infected early and isolating them to stem the spread. In the U.S., the CDC is beefing up its checks of incoming travelers. It already had been screening for illness among passengers arriving from the epicenter of China's outbreak at five U.S. airports. But people who've visited other parts of China still may be arriving, with stops in other places first. Now, CDC is sending extra staff to other "quarantine stations" to screen arrivals at a total of 18 airports

around the country and at two border crossings, in El Paso, Texas, and San Diego.

The State Department has also chartered a plane to evacuate diplomats from the U.S. Consulate in Wuhan, the city where the outbreak started, and some other Americans.

Asked if those evacuees would be quarantined, Azar said there will be doctors on the flight to check all the passengers so health officials can decide if additional steps are needed.

With an incubation period of anywhere from two to 14 days, travelers may arrive showing no symptoms. But CDC's Dr. Nancy Messonnier said the screenings are an opportunity to educate travelers that if they start feeling sick — with a fever, cough or flu-like symptoms — after returning from an outbreak zone, they should contact their doctor. That's exactly what the first U.S. patients did.

Azar said he has directed \$105 million to fight the outbreak. Among the next steps, the CDC developed a test for the virus and aims to make it usable by state health departments, to speed diagnosis of suspected cases. Research also is under way to develop a vaccine or treatment.

Airport screenings were initially done in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Atlanta. That has been expanded to Anchorage, Alaska; Boston; Dallas; Detroit; El Paso, Texas; Honolulu; Houston, Miami, Minneapolis; Newark, New Jersey; Philadelphia; San Diego; Seattle; Washington, D.C. (Dulles); and San Juan, Puerto Rico. □



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White supremacist appeals death penalty in church massacre

By **DENISE LAVOIE**

AP Legal Affairs Writer

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) —

White supremacist Dylann Roof on Tuesday appealed his federal convictions and death sentence in the 2015 massacre of nine black church members in South Carolina, arguing that he was mentally ill when he represented himself at his capital trial.

In a 321-page legal brief filed with the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Roof's lawyers ask the court to review 20 issues, including errors they say were made by the judge and prosecutors that "tainted" his sentencing.

One of their main arguments is that U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel should not have allowed Roof to represent himself during the penalty phase of his trial because he was a 22-year-old ninth-grade dropout "who believed his sentence didn't matter because white nationalists would free him from prison after an impending race war."

Roof's appellate lawyers said Roof had been diagnosed with "schizophrenia-spectrum disorder, autism, anxiety, and depression," but that he "jettisoned" his experienced trial attorneys to stop them from preventing evidence of his mental illness to jurors.

They said his trial attorneys told the judge that in their decades of experience, "none had represented a defendant so disconnected from reality." Roof, they said, presented no mitigating evidence to the jury.

"Instead, prosecutors told them Roof was a calculated killer with no signs of mental illness. Given no reason to do otherwise, jurors sentenced Roof to death," his attorneys wrote.

"Roof's crime was tragic, but this Court can have no confidence in the jury's verdict." Roof became the first person to be ordered executed for a federal hate crime when he was sentenced to death for fatally shooting nine black church members at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, on June 17, 2015.

Prosecutors said he specifically chose Emanuel AME, the South's oldest black church, to carry out the massacre. After he was arrested, Roof told FBI agents that he wanted the shootings to bring back segregation or perhaps start a race war.

The jury's verdict came after a trial in which the avowed white supremacist did not show any remorse or attempt to fight for his life. Roof never explained why he committed the massacre.

Roof's legal advisers repeatedly expressed frustration that Roof wouldn't allow them to introduce mental health evidence that could possibly spare his life.

Roof asked jurors to forget anything they'd heard from his legal team about his mental state, declaring, "there's nothing wrong with me psychologically."

"I still feel like I had to do it," Roof said in his closing argument.

"Anyone who hates anything in their mind has a good reason for it."

Prosecutors told the jury that Roof walked into the church and sat with the Bible study group for about 45 minutes, then opened fire during the final prayer, when everyone's eyes were closed.

The federal jury convicted Roof of 33 federal charges, including hate crimes. Dur-

ing a separate proceeding in state court, Roof was given nine life sentences in exchange for his guilty plea.

In their legal brief, Roof's appellate lawyers argue that the "federal trial shouldn't have happened at all." They said the state quickly brought capital charges against Roof's "wholly-intrastate crime," but months later, federal prosecutors sought their own death sentence. They argue that state officials "viewed the federal prosecution as unnecessary and disruptive."

"This Court should vacate Roof's convictions and death sentence," they wrote.

Roof's appellate lawyers include: Amy Karlin, interim Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California; James Wyda, Federal Public Defender for Maryland; Alexandra Yates, Deputy Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California; and Sapna Mirchandani, As-



In this April 10, 2017, file photo, Dylann Roof enters the courtroom at the Charleston County Judicial Center to enter his guilty plea on murder charges in Charleston, S.C.

Associated Press

sistant Federal Public Defender for Maryland.

The U.S. Department of Justice did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the claims made in Roof's appeal. A response brief from the DOJ is due on Feb. 18.

The massacre prompted South Carolina to remove

the Confederate flag from its Statehouse. Roof had posed with the flag in photos.

The slain included the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, the church's pastor and a state senator; a high school track coach; the church sexton; a librarian; and an aspiring poet. □



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In snub to U.S., Britain will allow Huawei in 5G networks

By **KELVIN CHAN** and **DAN-ICA KIRKA**

LONDON (AP) — Britain decided Tuesday to let Chinese tech giant Huawei have a limited role supplying new high-speed network equipment to wireless carriers, ignoring the U.S. government's warnings that it would sever intelligence sharing if the company was not banned. Britain's decision is the first by a major U.S. ally in Europe, and follows intense lobbying from the Trump administration as the U.S. vies with China for technological dominance.

It sets up a diplomatic clash with the Americans, who claim that British sovereignty is at risk because the company could give the Chinese government access to data, an allegation Huawei denies.

"We would never take decisions that threaten our national security or the security of our Five Eyes partners," Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said, referring to a security arrangement in which Britain, the United States, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, share intelligence. "We know more about Huawei and the risks that it poses than any other country in the world."

The decision was awkward for British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who risks the fury of one of Britain's closest allies at just the moment it needs the Trump's administration to quickly strike a trade deal after Brexit. Britain officially leaves the European Union at the end of the week, and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo



Mobile network phone masts are visible in front of St Paul's Cathedral in the City of London, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

is due to pay a two-day visit starting Wednesday to meet with Johnson and Raab to reaffirm the transatlantic relationship.

A senior Trump administration official said the U.S. is disappointed by the decision, adding that the U.S. government would work with the U.K. on a "way forward" that leads to the exclusion of "untrusted vendor components" from 5G networks. The official was not authorized to comment on the sensitive diplomacy between longstanding allies and spoke on condition of anonymity.

In its decision, the British government said it was excluding "high risk" companies from supplying the sensitive "core" parts of the new fifth-generation, or 5G, networks. The core is the brain that keeps track, among other things, of smartphones connect-

ing to networks and helps manage data traffic.

But Britain will allow high risk suppliers to provide up to 35% of a carrier's less risky radio network, based on factors including the amount of data traffic and the number of base stations.

The announcement did not mention any companies by name but said "high risk vendors are those who pose greater security and resilience risks to U.K. telecoms networks" - a clear reference to Huawei.

Huawei said it was reassured by the "evidence-based decision," portraying it as a victory. Executives said 35% of a market would be a good result for most companies.

"We need to have strong competition to make sure the consumer can enjoy the best possible technologies," Vice President Victor

Zhang said on a conference call with reporters.

By giving Huawei limited access, Johnson's government is attempting to thread a path between the U.S. and China, analysts said. "In truth the U.K. had little room to manoeuvre," said Emily Taylor, CEO of Oxford Information Labs, a cyber intelligence company. The decision "seeks to carve an acceptable middle ground that will keep various contending forces happy," she said, noting that British wireless carriers have already been using Huawei gear for 15 years.

The 5G technology is expected to drive the next wave of innovation, transmitting massive amounts of data from more objects and locations. It would, for example, help make possible self-driving cars or remote surgery.

Huawei is the top global

supplier of mobile networks, and it's considered a cost-effective and high-quality alternative to its main rivals, Finland's Nokia and Sweden's Ericsson.

The United States says that China's communist leaders could, under a 2017 national intelligence law, compel Huawei to carry out cyberespionage. The U.S. has threatened repeatedly to cut off intelligence sharing with allies that use Huawei.

"Here's the sad truth: our special relationship is less special now that the U.K. has embraced the surveillance state commies at Huawei," said U.S. Sen. Ben Sasse, a Republican on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. "During the Cold War, Margaret Thatcher never contracted with the KGB to save a few pennies."

With 5G, U.S. officials also worry that because the "core" will run extensively on software, it could be nearly impossible to spot an accidental vulnerability or a malicious "backdoor" among millions of lines of computer code. Huawei denies the allegations, saying there's never been any evidence it is responsible for a breach.

For Britain, the 5G infrastructure program is considered critical as it leaves the EU and aims to position its economy to benefit from technological innovation.

The government said Tuesday it is taking some steps that will allow it "to mitigate the potential risk posed by the supply chain and to combat the range of threats, whether cyber criminals, or state sponsored attacks." The plans include encouraging smaller suppliers such as South Korea's Samsung and Japan's NEC to enter the British market.

The government will draft legislation to make the security requirements mandatory. In the meantime, cybersecurity officials will advise wireless carriers, some of whom have already installed Huawei 5G-capable gear that exceeds the 35% cap, on how to comply. □

Billionaire apologizes for telling Trump 'Africa loves you'

By **MOGOMOTSI MAGOME**
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A South African billionaire businessman has apologized for telling U.S. President Donald Trump that "Africa loves you" during the World Economic Forum in Davos last week.

A video of Patrice Motsepe's remarks to Trump went viral on social media and sparked outrage from people who disagreed with



In this Dec. 15, 2013 file photo, British entrepreneur Richard Branson, left, speaks to South African billionaire Patrice Motsepe, centre, and his wife Precious Makgosi Moloi, right, before the funeral service for former South African President Nelson Mandela in Qunu, South Africa.

Associated Press

Motsepe and lambasted him for speaking on Afri-

cans' behalf. In the video, Motsepe can be heard telling Trump during a group dinner that "Africa loves America. Africa loves you. It is very, very important. We want America to do well. We want you to do well. The success of America is the success of the rest of the world."

In response to Motsepe's introduction, Trump said: "You've done a great job, thank you very much." □

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Europe's asylum agency signs deal on boosting Greek presence

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Europe's asylum agency signed a deal with Greece Tuesday that will help expand its operations in the country, which is struggling to process asylum requests amid high migrant arrivals and overcrowding in island camps.

The European Asylum Support Office said in a statement that the agreement signed in Athens "gives legal and administrative clarity to the status of EASO in the country."

EASO and Greece had already agreed for the number of agency staff in the country to double to more than 1,000, Greek Alternate Migration and Asylum Minister Giorgos Koumoutsakos

said. EASO funding for its Greek operations will also increase by 30%, from 27 million euros (\$30 million) last year to 35 million euros in 2020, he said.

Koumoutsakos said the signing of the agreement Tuesday was an "important day in Greece's efforts to tackle ... the great challenge of migration."

"The challenge is very big, difficult and hard to solve. (EU) member-states must not and cannot stand alone in the face of a challenge of such magnitude," Koumoutsakos added.

"European cooperation, solidarity and coordination are essential."

Tens of thousands of people fleeing war and poverty

in Asia, the Middle East and Africa continue to arrive in Greece from neighboring Turkey each year, despite a 2016 European Union-Turkey deal designed to stop migrant flows.

Most head from the Turkish coast to nearby Greek islands in the eastern Aegean, where under the EU-Turkey agreement they must remain pending deportation back to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in Greece.

In practice, very few are returned to Turkey.

The deal and a massive backlog in asylum applications has left thousands stranded on the islands in desperately overcrowded camps, where those un-



Migrants stand outside their makeshift tents outside the perimeter of the overcrowded Moria refugee camp after a rainfall on the northeastern Aegean island of Lesbos, Greece, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

able to find accommodation inside pitch makeshift tents and shacks outside the camp's perimeters.

Greece's nearly seven-month-old government has vowed to tackle the overcrowding but so far has

not managed to solve the problem.

EASO head Nina Gregori, who signed the deal with Koumoutsakos, said the office had been increasing its support to Greece since 2011. □

Peru judge orders detention for Fujimori during graft probe

Franklin Briceño
Associated Press

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Opposition leader Keiko Fujimori can be held 15 months in prison while she is investigated for possible money laundering, a Peruvian judge ruled Tuesday, shortly after official vote returns showed her party was trounced in weekend congressional elections.

Judge Victor Zuñiga said Fujimori, 44, must return to detention while prosecutors investigate her alleged

participation in a money laundering scheme tied to Odebrecht, the Brazilian construction giant that has confessed to paying out almost \$1 billion in bribes to South American governments.

Fujimori insists she is innocent.

She already spent a year in prison under detention, but had been released in November by Peru's constitutional court, which said she had lost the capability to interfere in the

investigation.

Fujimori's Popular Force party was the dominant bloc in the previous congress, but fared badly in Sunday's elections, falling from 72 seats to just 12 in the 130-member legislature.

The vote followed President Martin Vizcarra's decision to disband the body last year and call new elections as he sought to strengthen his campaign to root out endemic corruption. □

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Historians: Sobibor death camp photos may feature Demjanjuk

By **KERSTIN SOPKE and GEIR MOULSON**

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Historians have presented a collection of photos kept by the deputy commander of the Nazis' Sobibor death camp that they say appears to include images of John Demjanjuk, the retired Ohio auto worker who was tried in Germany for his alleged time as a Sobibor guard. The collection unveiled Tuesday at Berlin's Topography of Terror museum comprises 361 photos as well as written documents illustrating Johann Niemann's career. Niemann was the deputy commander of Sobibor from September 1942 until he was killed on Oct. 14, 1943, in an uprising by Jewish inmates.

Unlike in many other cases, the photos were not destroyed after World War II in fear of legal proceedings, and they remained in the possession of Niemann's family. The collection is being handed over to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Experts say the collection enhances historians' knowledge of what Sobibor looked like. So far, they knew of only two photos taken of the camp while it existed. The Niemann collection adds another 49.

Anne Lepper, whose grandparents were murdered on arrival at Sobibor from the Netherlands in 1943, said it was "very courageous" of Niemann's descendants to release the photos. She said it was "a breathtaking experience" to see the images after frequently hav-



Historian Martin Cueppers points at a man, presumably former security guard John Demjanjuk, at the Nazi death camp Sobibor during a news conference of newly discovered photos from the Sobibor camp in Berlin, Germany, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

ing seen the site. The collection may also shed more light on Demjanjuk, who was convicted in 2011 as an accessory to murder on allegations he served as a Sobibor guard. Demjanjuk always denied the accusations and died in 2012 before his appeal against the ruling by a Munich court could be heard, making the verdict not legally binding.

Two photos in the collection may depict a young Iwan Demjanjuk, as he was known before anglicizing his name to John, among other former prisoners of war who were trained at an SS camp and were deployed at Sobibor, according to historians. If they do, they would be the first to prove that he was at the camp.

Martin Cueppers, a Holocaust historian at the University of Stuttgart, said researchers concluded that Demjanjuk is "probably" depicted at least in one case in conjunction with the criminal police office in Germany's Baden-Wuerttemberg state, whose biometric department agreed to examine the historical photos.

But Demjanjuk's son, John Demjanjuk Jr., said of the newly unveiled photos that "it's a baseless theory to claim they prove anything at all regarding my father." The collection as a whole is "of significant historical value" regarding the Holocaust and Sobibor, he said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press. But "the photos are not proof of my father being in Sobibor

and may even exculpate him once forensically examined."

The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk was a Soviet Red Army soldier captured by the Germans in Crimea in 1942. He was accused of agreeing to serve as a "Wachmann," or guard, the lowest rank of the "Hilfswillige," former POWs who were subordinate to German SS men, and training in a camp known as Trawniki. The Munich court said the evidence showed he was a part of the Nazis' "machinery of destruction" and served in Sobibor from March 27, 1943 until mid-September that year.

Integral to the prosecution's case was an SS identity card that allegedly shows a picture of a young Demjanjuk and indicates

he trained at the SS Trawniki camp and was posted to Sobibor. Though court experts said the card appears genuine, Demjanjuk's defense attorneys argued it was a fake produced by the Soviet KGB.

The prosecution also produced evidence including transfer lists indicating a guard named Demjanjuk with the same Trawniki number was sent to serve in Sobibor and elsewhere, but there was never any photographic proof he was there.

Between March 1942 and October 1943, about 167,000 people were killed at Sobibor, almost all Jews, according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Following the 1943 uprising, the Nazi guards shot the remaining prisoners and razed the camp in occupied Poland.

Demjanjuk always maintained he was a victim of the Nazis; first wounded as a Soviet soldier and then captured and held as a prisoner of war under brutal conditions before joining the Vlasov Army, a force of anti-communist Soviet POWs and others formed to fight with the Germans against the Soviets in the war's final months.

If the newly surfaced photographs turn out not to picture Demjanjuk, it wouldn't be the first time his identity has been mistaken.

In the 1980s, Demjanjuk stood trial in Israel after he was accused of being the notoriously brutal guard "Ivan the Terrible" at the Treblinka extermination camp. □

Deaths rise to 132 in China outbreak as foreigners leave

BEIJING (AP) — Countries on Wednesday began evacuating their citizens from the Chinese city hardest-hit by an outbreak of a new virus that has killed 132 people and infected more than 6,000 on the mainland and abroad.

China's latest figures cover the previous 24 hours and add 26 to the number of deaths, 25 of which were in the Hubei province and its capital, Wuhan. The 5,974 cases on the mainland were a rise of 1,459 from the previous day. Dozens of infections of the new type of coronavirus have been confirmed outside mainland China as well.

Earlier in the morning, a plane carrying Americans who had been in Wuhan left for Anchorage, Alaska, where they will be re-screened for the virus. Hospitals are prepared to treat or quarantine people who may be infected. Then the plane is scheduled to fly to Ontario, California.

A Japanese chartered flight carrying 206 evacuees from Wuhan landed early Wednesday at Tokyo's Haneda airport.

The British government is warning against "all but essential travel" to mainland China amid the outbreak of the new type of coronavirus. And Hong Kong's leader said the territory will cut all rail links to the mainland and halve the number of flights to stop the spread of the virus. South Korea also said it will send a plane, and France, Mongolia and other governments also planned evacuations.

China has cut off access to Wuhan and 16 other cities in Hubei province to prevent people from leaving and spreading the virus further. The lockdown has trapped more than 50 million people in the most far-reaching disease control measures ever imposed.

The Japanese flight was bringing 20,000 face masks as well as protective gear, all in short supply as Chinese hospitals treat a growing number of patients. Wuhan is building two hospitals in a matter of days to add 2,500 beds for treatment of



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, a pilot wearing a protective suit parks a cargo plane at Wuhan Tianhe International Airport in Wuhan in central China's Hubei Province, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

patients with the virus.

The sharp rise in infections recently suggests significant human-to-human spread of the virus, though it could also be explained by expanded monitoring efforts, said Malik Peiris, chair in virology at the University of Hong Kong.

Experts worry the new virus may spread more easily than originally thought, or may have mutated into a form that does so. It is from the coronavirus family, which also can cause the common cold as well as more serious illnesses such as SARS and MERS, which both emerged in the past two decades and are thought to have come from animals.

The new virus causes cold- and flu-like symptoms, including cough and fever, and in more severe cases, shortness of breath and pneumonia. It is thought to have spread to people from wild animals sold at a Wuhan market. China on Sunday temporarily banned trade in wild animals and urged people to stop eating meat from them. On Tuesday, Director-General of the World Health Organization Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus met with Chinese leader Xi Jinping to discuss the latest information on the outbreak and reiterate their

commitment to bringing it under control, WHO said in a news release.

"The National Health Commission presented China's strong public health capacities and resources to respond and manage respiratory disease outbreaks," the release said.

It said discussions focused on ways to cooperate to contain the virus in Wuhan and other cities and provinces and studies that could contribute to the development of medical countermeasures such as vaccines and treatments. Other WHO experts will visit

China as soon as possible, it said. The source of the virus and the full extent of its spread are still unknown. However, WHO said most cases reported to date "have been milder, with around 20% of those infected experiencing severe illness." □

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Puerto Rico opens only 20% of schools amid ongoing quakes

By DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Puerto Rico opened only 20% of its public schools on Tuesday following a strong earthquake that delayed the start of classes by nearly three weeks as fears linger over the safety of students. Only 177 schools were certified to open after engineers inspected them for damage caused by the magnitude-6.4 earthquake that killed one person and damaged hundreds of homes on Jan. 7. But the inspections were not to determine whether a school could withstand another strong earthquake or had structural shortcomings such as short columns that make it vulnerable to collapse, further worrying parents.

"Of course I am afraid," said 38-year-old Marién Santos, who attended an open house on Monday at her son's Ramón Vilá Mayo high school in the suburb of Río Piedras where officials gave her a copy of the inspection report and evacuation plans.

Her concerns were echoed by the director of the school, Elisa Delgado. While she believes engineers did a thorough inspection of the school, built in the early 1900s, they warned her not



In this Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020 file photo, people whose homes are unsafe to enter after the previous day's magnitude 6.4 earthquake line up for lunch in an outdoor area of the Bernardino Cordero Bernard High School, which is being used as a shelter despite no electricity in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

to use the main entrance in an evacuation because it leads to an area filled with gas lines. The problem is that the other exits are too narrow to handle the school's 450 students, she told The Associated Press. "It's not ideal," she said.

Overall, engineers have inspected 561 of the island's 856 public schools, finding at least 50 too unsafe to reopen, leaving some 240,000 students out of school for now. Ongoing tremors also are forcing crews to automatically re-inspect schools

following any quake of 3.0 magnitude or higher, according to Puerto Rico's Infrastructure Financing Authority.

Since the 6.4 quake, there have been several strong aftershocks, including a 5.9 magnitude one that hit on Jan. 11 and a 5.0 that struck on Saturday. The biggest quake flattened the top two floors of a three-story school in the southern coastal city of Guánica on Jan. 7, two days before classes were scheduled to start.

Overall, experts say that some 500 public schools in Puerto Rico were built before 1987 and don't meet new construction codes. A plan to retrofit all schools that need it, an estimated 756 buildings, would cost up to \$2.5 billion, officials have said, noting those are preliminary figures.

Education Secretary Eligio Hernández noted that another 51 schools are scheduled to start classes on Feb. 3 and that his department is reviewing recommendations on how best

to proceed with the other schools. "The Department of Education is going to take the time it needs and will take all necessary actions so that parents ... feel satisfied," he told reporters on Monday.

Gov. Wanda Vazquez said Tuesday that her administration is still trying to find appropriate options for the roughly 28,000 students who have been unable to return to schools.

"It's not that easy," she said, adding that holding classes outdoors under tarps poses problems including how bathrooms, meals and transportation will be handled. She said hotels and convention centers in the area are being considered. Meanwhile, Elba Aponte, president of Puerto Rico's Association of Teachers, told the AP that she has received complaints and pictures from parents and school employees of at least 10 schools that have reopened but that they feel are still unsafe.

Most of the pictures are of cracks in the walls and roofs of those schools, she said.

"Their concerns are quite valid," Aponte said, adding that she would share them with the island's education secretary. □

Associated Press

Magnitude 7.7 earthquake hits between Cuba and Jamaica

By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — A powerful magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck in the Caribbean Sea between Jamaica and eastern Cuba on Tuesday, shaking a vast area from Mexico to Florida and beyond, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or heavy damage.

The quake was centered 139 kilometers (86 miles) northwest of Montego Bay, Jamaica, and 140 kilometers (87 miles) west-southwest of Niquero, Cuba, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. It hit at 2:10 p.m. (1910 GMT) and the epicenter was a relatively shallow 10 kilo-

meters (6 miles) beneath the surface.

The quake could be felt strongly in Santiago, the largest city in eastern Cuba, said Belkis Guerrero, who works in a Catholic cultural center in the center of Santiago.

"We were all sitting and we felt the chairs move," she said. "We heard the noise of everything moving around."

She said there was no apparent damage in the heart of the colonial city. "It felt very strong but it doesn't look like anything happened," she told The Associated Press.

It was also felt a little further east at the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo

Bay, Cuba, on the southeastern coast of the island.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damages, said J. Overton, a spokesman for the installation, which has a total population of about 6,000 people.

Several South Florida buildings were being evacuated as a precaution, according to city of Miami and Miami-Dade County officials. No injuries or road closures have been reported.

The quake also hit the Cayman Islands, leaving cracked roads and what appeared to be sewage spilling from cracked mains. There were no

immediate reports of deaths, injuries or more severe damage, said Kevin Morales, editor-in-chief of the Cayman Compass newspaper.

The islands see so few earthquakes that newsroom staff were puzzled when it hit, he said.

"It was just like a big dump truck was rolling past," Morales said. "Then it continued and got more intense."

Dr. Stenette Davis, a psychiatrist at a Cayman Islands hospital, said she had seen manhole covers blown off by the force of the quake, and sewage exploding into the street, but no more serious damage.

Claude Diedrick, 71, who owns a fencing business in Montego Bay, said he was sitting in his vehicle reading when the earth began to sway.

"It felt to me like I was on a bridge and like there were two or three heavy trucks and the bridge was rocking but there were no trucks," he said.

He said he had seen no damage around his home in northern Jamaica.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said the quake could generate waves 1 to 3 feet above normal in Cuba, Jamaica, the Cayman Islands, Honduras, Mexico and Belize.

The USGS initially reported the magnitude at 7.3. □



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'I have adopted 63 kids'

EAGLE BEACH — Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare offers you paradise: an oceanfront location on the white sands of Eagle Beach, the amazing aquamarine Caribbean ocean, wonderfully luxurious oceanfront, or poolside timesharing suites with a world of amenities like a spa, restaurant, and a fitness center. There is one room at the resort that is so colorful and jolly it makes you feel its happy energy at once. It is the kid's activity center, run by Vanessa Burke.

When observing Vanessa with 'her children' the most obvious is the natural flow they have together. She is calm and funny and the children connect with her in a very soft way. "She is really nice," says Olivia. "She is sweet and does fun things," says another girl. To Vanessa it is all about loving the job. "The kids are the favorite part of my job. They are all champions to me and I get to see most of them every year so I see them grow up. I have adopted 63 kids," she jokes.

World of things

The activity center offers a world of fun things to do for the little ones. From Monday to Friday the kids can do canvas painting, water games, T-shirt and bag painting, slime making or 'build your own ice cream monster'. That is not all, there is more to jump into so step inside and meet Vanessa. "I love searching on Pinterest to find trends and popular activities to do with the kids. Slime is a hit now so that is included in my program. On Fridays we have a movie with pizza or popcorn. And to offer a local touch the children can learn some basic Papiamentu on Tuesdays." The complete activity overview is to be found on the website under the button 'more' and 'activity'. "On special occasions I organize events for example with Dia di Betico, Valentine's Day, on the 4th of July, Christmas and Hanukkah. I like to make our guests feel connected to the local community," says Vanessa.

Besides the children's activity center there are more fun things to participate in at the Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare. Relaxing and healthy is the seated yoga, dynamic and fun are the salsa lessons or would you rather do your workout in the pool with water aerobics? Try some abs & stretching or test your voice during the karaoke happening. "Our bingo is a life or death thing," Vanessa says laughing. "The Grand Bingo sometimes adds up to \$ 600 so you can imagine..."



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January fishing report: Permit fish are abundant at this time



ORANJESTAD — New Year – new you, the saying goes. Luckily, some things never change, and that's why fishing in Aruba is as good as ever. The colorful island is one of the Caribbean's premier fisheries, and with January temperatures hovering around 86°F, it's the perfect place to escape to this winter.

Aruba is one of the cloudier islands in the Caribbean. However, you'll be pleased to know that despite the clouds, January is one of the driest months here. That means all the fishing days you can think of, and no burning in the sun.

Fishing-wise, you'll have a whole range of species to choose from. Fly fishers will have their hands full wrestling Permit on the flats. These guys are abundant at this time, but they're also notoriously tricky to catch.

Of course, there are loads of oth-

er fish on offer, and they don't require as much skill. Hop on a charter boat and head for the reefs, the signature Aruban fish are right there! From huge Wahoo to speedy Barracudas, and tasty Mahis, the reefs are an angler's joy. Just a few days ago, Captain Marcelino from Sunrise Charters in Noord took a party out for a half day trip, and boy did they have fun. The anglers caught four Wahoos, a Barracuda, a Mahi and a Kingfish, all in just a few hours of action! Just goes to show you how close to each other the fishing sweet spots are around here.

To round the experience off, the captain cleaned the catch for his guests, so they can bring it to one of the local restaurants for a tasty dinner. Talk about a perfect day of fishing.

Not in it for the meal? Head further offshore, and you'll find your challenge. The peak season for Sailfish



Captain of the Month

A true local expert, Marcelino has been fishing since the age of 12. Coming from a long line of fishermen, the Captain enjoys showing newbies how to fish. Marcelino's also an accomplished angling competitor, with all-tackle fishing tournament wins under his belt.

Marcelino fishes from his Puntra Bravo (Downeast), originally built in 2004. Powered by a 285HP Volvo Pent engine this pristine boat has a maximum cruising speed of 18 knots. You'll find all the amenities you need on board. There's a fighting chair, an enclosed toilet, an ice box and three bunk beds if you want to rest.

You'll have all the gear you need on board. For longer trips, the Captain will prepare snacks and drinks for you, as well. The crew will let you keep a third of the catch, which they will clean and fillet for you. Make sure to ask the Captain for a few restaurant recommendations. Cooking your catch in an Aruban restaurant is the perfect way to end your angling adventure!

and Marlin may be behind us, but there's still a chance you can nail one. If you'd really like to wrestle a monster, Bull Sharks are in bite mode.

No matter who you are, chances are Aruba has the fish you're after. Throw in the pleasant weather and some signature Aruban hospitality, and you've got the angling adventure of your dreams. ☐

Honored guests at Manchebo Beach Resort



EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Jonathan Boekhoudt of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba and Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were **Mr. Helmer & Mrs. Erika Mueller** as Distinguished Visitors

of Aruba, together with Mr. Robert & Mrs. Suzanne Rismondo as Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. These lovely people stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches and picturesque sunsets, delicious variety of foods, its safety, and Aruba's warm and friendly people who have become like family to them.

Boekhoudt together with the representatives of the Manchebo Beach Resort presented the certificates to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. ☐

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Bohemian Restaurant: Live Violinist Angela

PALM BEACH — Avant-garde from France, non-conformist in style and ethnic in cuisine. That is what the new kid in town is about. Bohemian Restaurant is different, unconventional and a rebel with a cause. The cause is to make you feel king in this hidden garden with outstanding dishes that connect you to the European liaisons of Aruba. Thursday night has an ex-

tra magic: the live violinist Angela performs! From traditional French and Italian famous melodies to more upbeat pop and rock and roll. A taste for everyone.

A garden full of strong trees and dressed up in New York-style industrial-look elements creates a cosmopolitan vibe while at the same time the tropical breeze and outside dining

connect to the Caribbean. Waiters with French barrettes and pant suspenders service you with a happy and loose style with on the background the sounds of underground chill music varied with French classics.

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The French are famous for their culinary art. Bohemian is the ONLY French owned restaurant on Aruba and offers you Grande gastronomy in a hip decor. French classics like Coq-au-Vin, Beef tartare, Escargot, Duck Foie Gras Terrine, Bouillabaisse Fish Soup, Tuna-Tartare, Quinoa-Salad, Rib-Eye Butter Maître-D, Crème Brulee, Chocolate Lava Cake and Pineapple Carpaccio are on the menu. Mediterranean inspired dishes like Ras el Hanout Fish Kebab, Honey and Rosemary Lamb Shank, Moroccan Lamb sausages, Mediterranean Sea Bass and Grilled



Local Catch are other finger licking options. Directly imported wines from wineries in Europe make up for a perfect pairing. You are welcome to enjoy the Happy Hours and Daily Early Birds from 5 to 7 PM. Bon appetite! Free Parking available at the parking lot in front of Barcelo Resort. □



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Remembering the Shoah for a better future



ORANJESTAD — The Beth Israel Synagogue in Oranjestad will dedicate the Kabbalat Shabbat of Friday, January 31st, 2020 to the remembrance of the liberation of the Extermination Camps. Everyone is welcome to join at 7.30pm at the synagogue.

On Monday 27 of January 2020, the whole world but especially Jewish communities around the world take a moment to remember the Holocaust. On this Holocaust Memorial Day, everyone is to recall the millions of people murdered during the Second World War, under Nazi persecution. This year we will mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Extermination Camps and our community. Together we can make sure that such atrocity will never happen again.

Some testimonies

75 years of the liberation

of Auschwitz – Birkenau: "... The field guard who came to open the gate said: You are free, and you can leave. All the guards disappeared with the dogs that were always standing in the corner - everything disappeared as if it had never existed. That was one of the miracles! The Russians came in - and we were in a state that nobody moved, nobody left. A soldier was very happy because it was the first camp in which he found people still alive. He began to cry, and we didn't. He cried and we didn't ... " - Bela Braver – Survivor

"... I thought I should be happy, I felt the tears, but I knew I had to rejoice. I started to cry, I thought: What did I have left? And the first thought that went through my mind was: what a pity, that they arrived too late, everyone was destroyed, everything worthy in the

world was gone. And I was also about to disappear, so no... I didn't feel sorry to feel that I was destined to die. I felt sorry for their being late, not for me, too bad for being late to save the world."

"I think the grief was never so great that this holiday ..." - Miriam Akavia - Survivor. □



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Today's Happening



A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



Wednesday 29 Dinner under the Stars

- Take a boat trip to Renaissance Island and let your taste buds travel to paradise.
- Enjoy a 4-course dinner menu consisting of Lamb Bock Choy or Salmon Ponzu, while your toes get pampered in white secluded sand. The private dinner setting includes a welcome cocktail at Lucy's Dock (across the Renaissance Mall), boat trip to Renaissance Private Island, dinner on the beach and live entertainment.
- From 6:30pm-10:00pm
- Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino, Oranjestad
- Facebook: Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino



Sunday 2

Farmers Market at the Ostrich Farm

- 1st Farmers Market off 2020! Locally grown, made, produced and handcrafted unique art.
- Don't miss out! Take a tour and meet Aruba's Ostriches. Tours available every 30 min.
- 10am-2pm
- Ostrich Farm
- Facebook: Aruba Ostrich Farm

Thursday 30

'A Touch of Aruba'

- It's showtime! Every Thursday Nico Connor together with NLG Dancers will heat up the night with the Sweetpan music and cultural show.
- 7:30 – 9:30 PM
- Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort
- Facebook: Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort



Monday 3

Etnia Nativa

- Explore the Native Aruban Art Gallery & Museum where all the produce and exhibit proceeds from discarded as well as recollected materials, recycled in beautiful art pieces inspired on Aruba's archaic Cultures. Anthony Croes will be delighted to give you a personal 1 hour tour.
- Make your appointment
- Westpunt 37-A, Noord
- Facebook: Etnia Nativa



Friday 31

Holocaust memorial at the Synagogue

- The Beth Israel Synagogue in Oranjestad will dedicate the Kabbalat Shabbat to the remembrance of the liberation of the Extermination Camps. On this Holocaust Memorial Day, everyone is to recall the millions of people murdered during the Second World War, under Nazi persecution.
- From 7:30pm
- Beth Israel Synagogue, Oranjestad
- Facebook: Beth Israel Synagogue Aruba

Saturday 1

Super Saturday Soca Final

- Final night for the SOCA category of the Aruba Caiso & Soca Monarch 2020 competition. The Aruban Calypso is a slower version of the Roadmarch rhythm with as a main purpose to speak to one's mind through the Calypso song. These songs carry a message about everyday life on Aruba with no subject being sacred.
- 8pm
- Carnival Village, San Nicolas
- Facebook: Stichting Musica

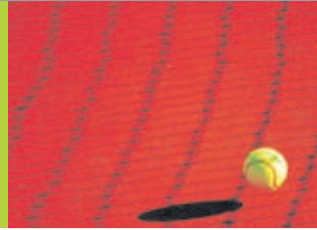


Tuesday 4

Taco Tuesday's

- Every Tuesday Lola is slinging crazy specials your way! Try this week's Carnita special
- 5pm-1am
- Next to Craft bar at Palm Beach
- Facebook: Lola Taqueria

SPORTS



Switzerland's Roger Federer makes a forehand return to Tennys Sandgren of the U.S. during their quarterfinal match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

Federer saves 7 match points in Australia; Djokovic up next

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia
(AP) — Roger Federer was

not going to go gently, of course, no matter how daunting the number of match points — his opponent accumulated seven! — no matter how achy his 38-year-old legs, no matter how slow his serves, no matter how off-target his groundstrokes.

Federer still plays for the love of these stages and circumstances. Still years for more trophies, too. Down to his very last gasp, time and again, against someone a decade younger, 100th-ranked Tennys Sandgren of the United States, Federer somehow pulled off a memorable comeback to reach the Australian Open semifinals for the 15th time.

Continued on Page 22

DONCIC DAZZLES



Doncic scores 29, leads Mavs past Thunder, 107-97

Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic (77) goes up for a shot in the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Oklahoma City Thunder, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020, in Oklahoma City.

Associated Press
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Maya Moore at peace with decision to skip second WNBA season

By **DOUG FEINBERG**
AP Basketball Writer

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Minnesota Lynx star Maya Moore sees missing a second consecutive WNBA season as an extension of her decision to skip last year.

The 30-year-old told The Associated Press in a phone interview Monday that her work pushing criminal justice reform wasn't done yet.

"I think when I made my announcement last February in 'The Players' Tribune' that the heartbeats of what I believed in were still true," Moore said. "I'm still very committed to Jonathan's case and will see it through."

Moore has spent most of the last year trying to help a family friend overturn a conviction. Jonathan Irons has been incarcerated since 1997, convicted in the nonfatal shooting of a homeowner during a burglary. He is serving a

50-year sentence but has asked a judge to reopen his case.

figure out the next steps are," Moore said. "We had a really powerful hearing



Minnesota Lynx and former Connecticut player Maya Moore, left, puts her arm around former Connecticut teammate and New York Liberty player Tina Charles during a ceremony honoring their championship team before an exhibition basketball game between Connecticut and the United States, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020, in Hartford, Conn.

Associated Press

"There was a hearing today where the lawyers came together with the judge to

back on Oct. 9 when we were able to disclose all the evidence."

Moore said that there is a set of fingerprints that didn't belong to Irons and that it could be a key piece of evidence.

"We are in process of identifying whose fingerprints were found at the crime scene and who those belong to," she said. "The original trial, they said they belonged to him."

Moore said the next hearing date is March 9.

While Moore is sitting out for a second straight season and a chance to play in a third Olympics, she confirmed that she isn't ready to retire.

"Everyone thinks about retirement at some point. I don't think right now is the right time to do that," she said. "So I tried to explain it the best way I am on this journey. I wanted to make it clear I wouldn't play in the 2020 season and the Olympics, but don't think it's the right time to put retirement out there."

Moore was in Connecticut

for the U.S. national team's exhibition game against UConn. The Huskies were honoring Moore's teams that won national championships in 2009 and 2010.

"It's going to be a mix of emotions and I want to be appreciative and soak it all in," Moore said of coming to the game. "It will be a surreal feeling watching the national team."

Moore received a warm ovation from the crowd when she was introduced before the game.

"I think it was a bigger deal for Maya. This is someone who hadn't been around UConn or in 'public'," U.S. coach Cheryl Reeve said. "Think of all the worlds that just merged that Maya's been a part of. There was a lot going on for Maya. Tremendous to see her and a lot of WNBA players. For Maya I told her I was really glad that she participated in this very important day in honoring these teams that she was a big part of." □

Doncic scores 29 to lead Mavericks over Thunder, 107-97

By The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) —

Luka Doncic had 29 points and 11 rebounds, and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 107-97 Monday on a night that included several tributes to Kobe Bryant.

Thunder guard Chris Paul sat out for personal reasons a night after Bryant, one of the NBA's all-time greats, was killed in a helicopter crash in Southern California.

When the game started following a moment of silence, the Mavericks took an 8-second violation in honor of the number Bryant wore to start his NBA career. The Thunder then took a 24-second shot clock violation in honor of the number Bryant wore later. After the two violations, the scoreboard clock read 11:24, and the 24-second clock below it had been reset to show 24 seconds.

The Mavericks led by at least 10 points the entire fourth quarter. Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 15 points and Kristaps Porzingis added 14 points and 10 rebounds for Dallas.

Dennis Schroder scored 21 for the Thunder.

ROCKETS 126, JAZZ 117

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Eric Gordon scored a career-high 50 points to lead short-handed Houston over Utah despite playing without James Harden and Russell Westbrook.

Danuel House Jr. added 21 points and 11 rebounds, and Austin Rivers also had 21 points as the Rockets handed the Jazz their first home loss since Dec. 9.

Gordon became the first Rockets player besides Harden to score 50 points in a game since Hakeem Olajuwon had 51 in January 1996, according to

STATS. Harden has done it 23 times since then.

Donovan Mitchell scored 36 points and Bojan Bogdanovic added 30, but Utah

points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. He's a candidate to be a reserve selection for the All-Star Game; coaches pick those teams, and

with two free throws after he was fouled by Jakob Poethl on a drive to the basket. San Antonio had one last chance, and DeRozan was

mate of Kobe Bryant's who played college basketball in Los Angeles at UCLA, made six 3-pointers before halftime. It was the first game for either team since Bryant's death Sunday in a helicopter crash.

It was the third meeting this month between the Pistons and Cavaliers. They split a home-and-home series Jan. 7 and 9 in a pair of tightly contested games. This one wasn't nearly as close.

Cleveland had not won by double digits since a 108-87 victory at New York on Nov. 10.

Collin Sexton had 23 points for the Cavaliers and Tristan Thompson added 17 points and 11 rebounds. Reggie Jackson led Detroit with 16 points.

KINGS 133, TIMBERWOLVES 129, OT

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Buddy Hield scored a career-high 42 points to help Sacramento rally from a 27-point deficit for an overtime victory against skidding Minnesota.

De'Aaron Fox scored 22 for the Kings, putting back the rebound of his intentionally missed free throw as part of a 33-11 run over the final 5:42 of regulation.

Andrew Wiggins had 36 points, nine rebounds and eight assists for the Timberwolves, who lost their 10th consecutive game.

With the Kings down three with 4.7 seconds left in regulation, Fox made his first free throw. He intentionally fired the second off the front of the rim, grabbed his own rebound and laid it in to tie the game with 3.6 seconds left.

Hield scored 18 points in the final 4:36 of regulation on a night that featured tributes to his childhood hero, Kobe Bryant. Fox scored 17 points in the second half and overtime. Nemanja Bjelica finished with 20 points.

The Timberwolves built their lead thanks to a franchise-record 23 3-pointers. Wiggins was 7 for 11 beyond the arc.

Robert Covington had 24 points and Karl-Anthony Towns added 23 for Minnesota. □



Houston Rockets guard Eric Gordon (10) goes to the basket following the whistle after a foul in the first half during an NBA basketball game against the Utah Jazz, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020, in Salt Lake City.

Associated Press

lost for just the third time in 22 games despite shooting 51% from the field.

Gordon had his first game with more than 30 points this season. His previous career best of 41 came against Oklahoma City on Jan. 23, 2009. The veteran guard stepped up and filled the scoring void with Harden, Westbrook and Clint Capela sitting out. Harden missed his second straight game with a bruised left thigh. Capela (bruised right heel) and Westbrook (rest) sat out after playing Sunday against Denver.

HEAT 113, MAGIC 92

MIAMI (AP) — Bam Adebayo got his third triple-double of the season in his last opportunity to impress Eastern Conference All-Star voters. Duncan Robinson scored 21 points and Miami eased past Orlando.

Adebayo finished with 20

their ballots are due at the NBA office on Tuesday for an announcement on Thursday.

Jimmy Butler scored 19 points, Goran Dragic had 14 and Tyler Herro added 13 for Miami. The Heat improved to 13-0 at home against Eastern Conference teams.

Nikola Vucevic had 13 points and 12 rebounds for the Magic.

BULLS 110, SPURS 109

CHICAGO (AP) — Zach LaVine scored 14 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter, including two clutch foul shots with 2.1 seconds left, and Chicago edged San Antonio.

LaVine won an entertaining duel with DeMar DeRozan after the Bulls trailed by 10 heading into the final period. DeRozan tied it at 108 on a tough fadeaway jumper with 8.6 seconds left, but LaVine responded

fouled by Kris Dunn on a long jumper with 0.2 seconds to go. DeRozan made the first, missed the second and grabbed the rebound, but was unable to get a shot off before time expired.

Chicago placed seven players in double figures in its third win in four games. Denzel Valentine scored 16 points.

DeRozan had 36 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs. Patty Mills made six 3-pointers and finished with 25 points.

The Spurs played without forward LaMarcus Aldridge, who was sidelined by a sprained right thumb.

CAVALIERS 115, PISTONS 100

DETROIT (AP) — Kevin Love scored all 20 of his points in the first half and Cleveland beat Detroit to snap a seven-game losing streak.

Love, an Olympic team-





Pittsburgh Penguins defenseman Marcus Pettersson (28) and Detroit Red Wings center Robby Fabbri (14) battle for the puck in the second period of an NHL hockey game Friday, Jan. 17, 2020, in Detroit.

Associated Press

Penguins sign D Pettersson to 5-year extension

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Marcus Pettersson is sticking with the Pittsburgh Penguins. The 23-year-old defenseman agreed to a five-year contract extension on Tuesday that runs through the 2024-25 season. The deal carries an average annual value of just over \$4 million. Pittsburgh acquired Pettersson in a December 2018 trade that sent forward Daniel Sprong to Anaheim. Pettersson has become one of the steadiest players on the Penguins' blue line over the last 13 months. He has one goal and 14 assists in 50 games this season with a plus-4 rating. He also ranks fourth on the team in hits (78) and blocked shots (57).

"In just over a year, Marcus has had a significant

impact on our defensive group," Pittsburgh general manager Jim Rutherford said in a statement. "He is young, reliable and smart, which is important in today's game. Marcus is part of our young core and it was important to get him signed long-term." Pettersson is also durable. Last season he became the 11th player since 1994 to appear in 84 games, an achievement he reached due to the timing of the trade that brought him to the Penguins. He has not missed a game yet this season for Pittsburgh.

The Penguins, who currently are in second place in the Metropolitan Division behind Washington, return to play on Friday night against Philadelphia. □

AP sources: Mic'd up MLB ump might announce replay rulings

By BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Big league players, managers and fans might be hearing a lot more from umpires this season.

Replay review decisions could be announced at the ballpark by ump wearing microphones, several people familiar with the plan told The Associated Press on Monday. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because no decision has been made.

Major League Baseball and the umpires are actively discussing the possibility.

If the technical aspects can be worked out and the ump are comfortable with the concept, they could be mic'd up sometime this year — both sides say there's lots of work to do, making it uncertain whether this could be in place by opening day on March 26. □



Washington Capitals right wing Tom Wilson (43) knocks down Montreal Canadiens centre Nick Suzuki (14) during second period NHL hockey action Monday, Jan. 27, 2020 in Montreal.

Associated Press

Vrana has goal, assist as Capitals beat Canadiens 4-2

By The Associated Press

MONTREAL (AP) — Jakub Vrana had a goal and an assist as the Eastern Conference-leading Washington Capitals beat the Montreal Canadiens 4-2 Monday night for their fourth straight win. Tom Wilson, Travis Boyd and Nicklas Backstrom also scored for the Capitals, and T.J. Oshie had two assists. Washington, 7-1-0 in its last eight games at Bell Centre, was without star forward Alex Ovechkin while he missed his first game this season to serve a one-game suspension for skipping the All-Star Game. Braden Holtby made 31 saves and improved to 14-2-2 in his career against Montreal. Jeff Petry and Dale Weise scored for the Canadiens, who began the night 10 points out of a playoff spot. Carey Price stopped 36 shots.

STARS 3, LIGHTNING 2, OT
DALLAS (AP) — Jamie Benn scored his second goal 2:07 into overtime and Dallas beat Tampa Bay. Steven Stamkos had both goals for Tampa Bay, including the tying score with 1:26 left in regulation. Benn got the winner after a turnover by Brayden Point, who then appeared to grab the Stars captain from behind before his backhand past All-Star goaltender Andrei

Vasilevskiy, who made 32 saves. Ben Bishop, who Vasilevskiy passed last month for the most games in goal for Tampa Bay, stopped 23 shots. Denis Gurianov also scored for Dallas.

MAPLE LEAFS 5, PREDATORS 2

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — William Nylander, Zach Hyman and Rasmus Sandin each scored and had an assist to lead Toronto over Nashville. Jason Spezza and Auston Matthews also scored and Frederik Andersen made 34 saves for the Maple Leafs, who snapped a two-game losing streak. Mikael Granlund and Viktor Arvidsson scored for Nashville, which has lost of three of four.

DEVILS 4, SENATORS 3, SO
OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Kyle Palmieri tied it late in the third period, and Nikita Gusev and Jack Hughes scored in the shootout to lift New Jersey over Ottawa.

Damon Severson and Kevin Rooney also scored in regulation for the Devils, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Mackenzie Blackwood, making his first start since Jan. 9, stopped 35 shots. Tyler Ennis, Vladislav Namestnikov and Chris Tierney scored for Ottawa. Marcus Hogberg had 50 saves through overtime, but gave up two

goals on two shots in the tiebreaker.

CANUCKS 3, BLUES 1

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — J.T. Miller scored twice in the second period to help Vancouver rally from an early deficit.

Bo Horvat also scored as the Canucks won their ninth straight at home, and 12th in the last 15 overall. Jake Virtanen and Chris Tanev each had two assists. Thatcher Demko, making his second straight start, and fourth in the last 20 games, stopped 36 shots. Miller has 48 points (19 goals, 29 assists) in 50 games this season, topping the 47 points (13 goals, 34 assists) he had in 75 games with Tampa Bay last year. Zach Sanford scored for the Blues, who have lost three straight (0-2-1). Jake Allen made 22 saves.

SHARKS 4, DUCKS 2

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Patrick Marleau and Stefan Noesen each scored twice, and San Jose beat Anaheim. Marleau moved past Hall of Famer Guy Lafleur and into a tie with Mike Modano for 25th place on the NHL's career list with 561 goals. The 40-year-old also moved past Rod Brind'Amour for 50th on the all-time points list with 1,185 — including 1,101 with the Sharks. □

Federer saves 7 match points in Australia; Djokovic up next

Continued from Page 18

Despite all sorts of signs he was not quite himself for much of the match, Federer beat the biceps-baring, hard-hitting, court-covering Sandgren 6-3, 2-6, 2-6, 7-6 (8), 6-3 on Tuesday in a rollicking quarterfinal that appeared to be over long before it truly was.

"For the most time there, I thought that was it. Of course, there's little sparkles where maybe not. Then you're like, 'No, it IS over,'" said Federer, who only once before had won after facing as many as seven match points, equaling his personal best from all the way back in 2003. "Only maybe when I won that fourth set did I really think that, maybe, this whole thing could turn around." He said afterward that it had been his groin muscle that was the problem and he couldn't be certain whether he would be fully recovered for his next match. That will come against defending champion Novak Djokovic, who overwhelmed No. 32 Milos Raonic 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (1) to improve to 10-0 against the 2016 Wimbledon runner-up. "He was just too good," Raonic said.

It'll be the 50th meeting between No. 3 Federer, who has won 20 Grand Slam titles, and No. 2 Djokovic,



Serbia's Novak Djokovic reacts as he is interviewed by John McEnroe about the death of his friend Kobe Bryant following his quarterfinal win over Canada's Milos Raonic at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

who owns 16.

Djokovic leads their head-to-head series 26-23, including their past five matches at majors.

"Roger is Roger. You know that he's always going to play on such a high level, regardless of the surface," Djokovic said. "He loves to play these kind of matches, big rivalries, semis, finals of Grand Slams."

About the only thing that slowed Djokovic's progression to a 37th career Grand Slam semifinal — Federer earned his 46th — was the medical timeout the Serb asked for at 4-all in the third set so he could put in new contact lenses.

"It was just something I had

Associated Press

to do," Djokovic said, "because those few games, I really couldn't see much."

The last two men's quarterfinals are Wednesday: Rafael Nadal vs. Dominic Thiem, and Alexander Zverev vs. Stan Wawrinka.

One women's semifinal was set Tuesday: No. 1 Ash Barty, trying to become the first Australian Open singles champion from the host country since the 1970s, against No. 14 Sofia Kenin, a 21-year-old American never before this far at any major tournament.

Wednesday's quarterfinals are Simona Halep vs. Anett Kontaveit, and Garbiñe Muguruza vs. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

There was a lot to live up to after the drama of Federer vs. Sandgren.

"You can't give a good player — let alone maybe the best player ever — that many chances to come back," said Sandgren, his voice low, his eyes looking down. "They're going to find their game and start playing well. That seemed to me what happened." In truth, so much had happened.

Federer got into a dispute with a line judge and the chair umpire over cursing. He left the court for a medical timeout early in the third set, then was visited by a trainer later for a right leg massage.

Sandgren was run into by a ballkid during a change-over in the tiebreaker; was distracted by a courtside broadcast commentator.

The 28-year-old from Tennessee has never been a major semifinalist and was trying to become the lowest-ranked man in the Australian Open's final four since Patrick McEnroe — John's younger brother — was No. 114 in 1991.

Imagine, then, the heartbreak for Sandgren, who toiled for years on lower-level tours and was so thrilled just to share the stage with Federer.

"Maybe," Sandgren said, "I'll get another look, another shot."

After rolling through the second and third sets as Federer's serve dropped from an average of 112 mph to 105 mph — "Wasn't popping like it does normally," Sandgren observed — and Federer's unforced errors totaled 30, the underdog led 5-4 in the fourth set.

That's when Sandgren earned his first trio of opportunities to complete a career-defining victory. But he missed a shot each time. There were four more match points in the tiebreaker at 6-3, 6-4, 6-5 and 7-6.

"Honestly, when they told me seven, I was like, 'What?!' I thought it was three," Federer said. "It's such a blur."

Djokovic's take on Federer's comeback: "Amazing."

Raonic's: "Impressive." When Sandgren sent an overhead smash long to give Federer the fourth set. Federer quickly controlled the fifth and ended the victory with a service winner at 119 mph, a little more than an hour after first starting down defeat.

"Just seemed like his level picked up when his back was right up against the wall," said Sandgren, who only got the chance to serve on one of those seven pivotal points. "He just wouldn't give me anything." That's how Djokovic makes foes feel. □

World Cup leader Kristoffersen gets 4th Schladming win



Norway's Henrik Kristoffersen celebrates winning an alpine ski, men's World Cup slalom, in Schladming, Austria, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

SCHLADMING, Austria (AP) — Henrik Kristoffersen overcame a big mistake in his final run to win a men's

World Cup night slalom on Tuesday, strengthening his lead in the overall and discipline standings.

The Norwegian hit a gate with his left arm and nearly skied out after a few seconds but recovered from the mishap and charged down the Planai course in an unmatched pace, beating his rivals Alexis Pinturault and Daniel Yule.

"How is it possible to win a race after such a mistake?" Kristoffersen said in disbelief. "I saw 20 racers before my run, so why did I make that mistake there?" The Norwegian, who was second after the opening leg, also benefited from mistakes by first-run leader Marco Schwarz.

Chasing the first Austrian slalom win of the season,

Schwarz slid off the race line at the sixth gate and wrongly passed the next gate.

In front of his home crowd of 40,000, Schwarz still completed his run and finished five seconds off the lead, but he was disqualified for the gate error.

Kristoffersen said he had "no feeling in my left upper arm" after his accident.

"After that mistake my head was gone. I just skied straight down," he said.

It was Kristoffersen's 17th career slalom win and fourth at this venue, tying a record set by the retired Austrian standout Benjamin Raich.

The result saw Kristoffersen's lead grow to 119 points over Pinturault in the overall standings, and to 57 over Yule in the slalom rankings.

Pinturault was 0.34 behind in second, after the Frenchman failed to finish the previous two slaloms.

"This is a special result for me after what happened in Wengen and Kitzbuehel," he said. "I am very satisfied, it was not so easy."

Looking for his third win of the season, Clement Noel nearly matched a World Cup record as he gained 26 places in the second run. □



In this Oct. 22, 2019, file photo, Washington Nationals' Ryan Zimmerman hits a home run during the second inning of Game 1 of the baseball World Series against the Houston Astros in Houston.

Associated Press

Ryan Zimmerman, Nationals finalize \$2M, 1-year contract

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ryan Zimmerman and the World Series champion Washington Nationals finalized a \$2 million, one-year contract on Wednesday. The 35-year-old first baseman, who has spent his entire 15-year big league career with the Nationals, can earn \$3 million in performance bonuses. He can earn \$1.5 million based on games: \$250,000 each for 65, 80, 95, 110, 125 and 140. He also can get \$1.5 million for plate appearances: \$250,000 apiece for 250, 300, 350, 500, 450 and 500. Zimmerman also gets a full no-trade provision. Since he already has the right to block trades as a 10-year veteran who has spent five years with his current club,

the provision would matter only if he accepts a trade, then wants to block a deal to a different team. He had become a free agent last fall after the Nationals declined an \$18 million option, choosing to pay a \$2 million buyout. Injuries limited Zimmerman to 52 games and a .257 average with six homers and 27 RBIs last year, but he was a key contributor in the postseason. He homered in Game 4 of the Division Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers' Pedro Báez and in the World Series opener off Houston's Gerrit Cole. Zimmerman is expected to share time at first base with newcomer Eric Thames and holdover Howie Kendrick. □

House resolution proposed against minor league contraction

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four members of the House of Representatives introduced a resolution Tuesday urging Major League Baseball not to follow through with its proposal to eliminate 42 current minor league teams. MLB made the proposal last year to the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, the governing body of the minors, during negotiations for a Professional Baseball Agreement to replace the deal that expires after

the 2020 season. MLB wants to cut short-season leagues and reduce the number of farm teams each big league club affiliates with. It has proposed replacing the eliminated minor league teams with a not yet defined Dream League, somewhat similar to collegiate summer leagues. The resolution was introduced by Reps. Lori Trahan, D-Mass.; David McKinley, R-W. Va.; Max Rose, D-N.Y.; and Mike Simpson, R-Idaho. □



In this July 8, 2017, file photo, Washington Nationals manager Dusty Baker watches batting practice before a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves in Washington.

Associated Press

AP source: Astros, Dusty Baker working on manager deal

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Dusty Baker is working to finalize an agreement to become manager of the Houston Astros, a person with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press on Tuesday. The 70-year-old Baker becomes the oldest manager in the big leagues. He takes over from AJ Hinch, who was fired Jan. 13 just an hour after he was suspended for the season by Major League Baseball for his role in Houston's sign-stealing scandal.

Baker's hiring is a sign the AL champions want to bring an old-school mentality and stern presence to a franchise reeling from the dismissal of Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow. Baker has 22 years of managerial experience, starting in 1993 with the San Francisco Giants.

A three-time National League Manager of the Year, Baker last managed the Washington Nationals, who let him go after a 97-65 season in 2017.

Since 2018 Baker has served as a special adviser to Giants CEO Larry Baer, working in both the baseball and business operations of the club. He regularly attended son Darren's college games at the University of California in Berkeley.

"Dusty has a unique and proven ability to connect with players, be a step ahead with game strategy and provide superior leadership, as he did here for 10 years," Baer said.

Now Baker will chase his first title as a manager with a team that returns the bulk of its roster from last year that reached the World Series for the second time in three years before losing to the Nationals.

It's a chance he wondered if he'd ever get. He spoke to The Associated Press about it in 2018 after he left the Nationals.

"Do you ever make peace with it?" he asked then. "You make peace but it makes you kind of lose some faith in mankind, between right and wrong. And you realize in the world, especially in this new world, there's always been discrimination, race discrimination, but it seems like in this new world there's age and salary discrimination, which go hand in hand."

His hiring is a stark departure from the youth-oriented recent history of the Astros, who hired Hinch when he was just 41. Baker takes over a team that should be a favorite to contend again after winning 100-plus games in three straight seasons.

But it will also be a challenge for a man who hasn't

managed for two seasons and will have to deal with the fallout from the sign-stealing saga that is certain to cast a pall over Houston's quest to return to the World Series.

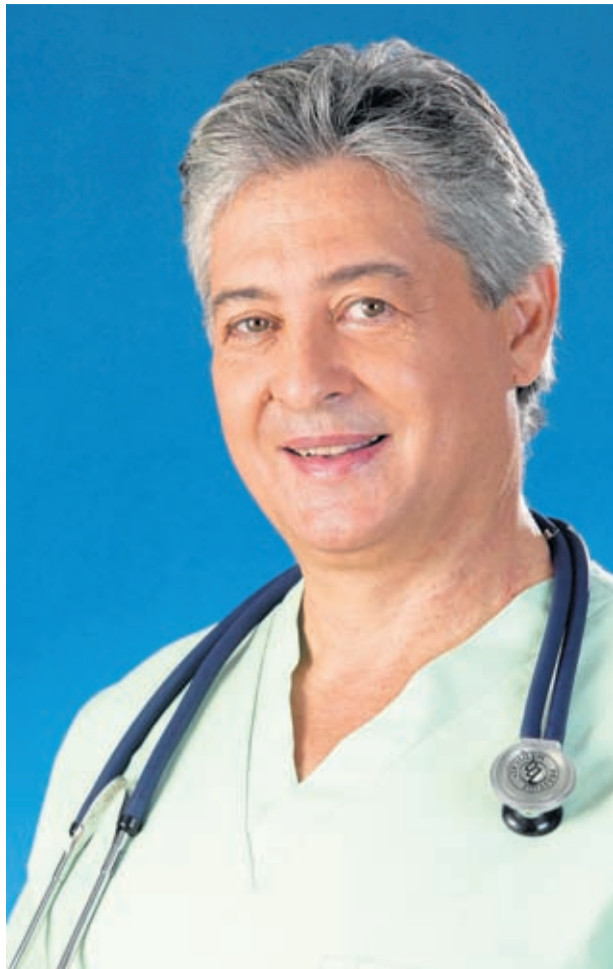
MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred disciplined the Astros after he found the team broke rules by using electronics to steal signs during its run to the 2017 World Series championship and again in the 2018 season.

The Astros were fined \$5 million, the maximum allowed under the Major League Constitution, and forfeited their next two first- and second-round amateur draft picks.

The investigation found that the Astros used the video feed from a center field camera to view and decode opposing catcher's signs. Players banged on a trash can to signal to batters what was coming, believing it would improve chances of getting a hit.

The penalties left Houston scrambling to find a manager with spring training less than a month away.

Baker has compiled a 1,863-1,636 regular season record in a career where he spent 10 years with the Giants, four years with the Chicago Cubs and six seasons with the Cincinnati Reds before his two-year stint with the Nationals. □



by Carlos M Viana

A "pain in the neck" is an annoying person or thing. So where does the expression come from? Anybody who has or has had back pain will appreciate how tiresome this kind of pain can be. Allopathic physicians will order an x-ray, maybe even one of those fancy atomic medicine machines that show your insides in Technicolor™. And there "it" is, the offending vertebral disk, or pinched nerve. We have all these machines to measure, make visible, and give us objective information. Regrettably, from all this information no pathology can be inferred. What does that mean? Not even a radiologist, looking at the pictures of your body can determine how much pain you feel or that you have osteoporosis. Only a bone density test can determine your real status. You see, pain is a feeling and feelings cannot be measured objectively. What is going on here? Allopathic doctors can only look for structural problems to explain your back pain.

Complimentary or integrative physicians, noting an absence of structural problems look at

the energetic map of your body to determine the origin of your back pain. For us no part of your body exists in isolation. Every tooth in your body is energetically connected to an organ, a joint, a vertebra, a feeling, a season, even to a color. So, every vertebra of your spine and its disks are also associated to many different parts of your body. This association is the "science" of complimentary medicine. To pinpoint exactly where the energy is being blocked is the "art" of my job. Let's take a look at two areas of common back pain.

The first is, literally, a pain in the neck. People who wake up with stiff necks thinking they have slept "wrong" the night before.

Sometimes, the neck stiffness is so pronounced these people have to turn their shoulders to see something at their side. When I start asking about their stomach they look confused. "Well, yes, doctor, I have frequent heartburn, but I am here for my neck".

They are relieved when one acupuncture treatment using only two or four needles greatly loosens and relieves the pain, and confused again when we send them off with a blood test to check their stomach. Helicobacter pylori bacteria and another common virus – Rotavirus are some of the biggest stomach problems we see in our clinic.

If the stomach is blocked, nothing moves smoothly causing a block above leading to stiff necks and shoulders. If your blood type is A and you frequently sufferer from a stiff neck, your deficient stomach acid is causing the problem. What your neck needs more than a physical therapist is a Clinical Nutritionist.

Perhaps the most common lower back problem involves the vertebra lumbar 4 and 5. Allopathic surgeons recommend back operations for L4/ L5 back pain, even though the outcome is much less than satisfactory. Energy physicians, do not loose sight that the hypo-gastric plexus nerve that exits the spinal column at L4/L5 com-

mands the colon, bladder, rectum, and genital organs. Those of you who are now saying "Aha, we should look at these organs for problems" would make good complementary physicians. But let me make this exercise more challenging by asking; what if after checking the organs you hear the line from your regular doctor, "the tests show everything is alright". You have come to a dead- end on your road of recovery back to health.

When the tests show no apparent problem, and the organs are well within energetic values, then we turn our attention to the mental and emotional body. In Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) the organs that are controlled by the hypo-gastric plexus nerve are organs of elimination. If we are having no problems in our physical elimination organs we look at the emotional aspect of elimination, which is "letting go" of past emotional traumas.

For our bodies of energy, emotional pain equals physical pain. The absence of any physical elimination organ problem has to be resolved by allowing ourselves, to "let go" of that specific emotional trauma. Holding on to this emotional pain can produce an energetic block that causes pain in vertebra L4 and L5.

All physical pain includes an emotional trauma history.

To find relief for lower back pain of an emotional nature the patient does not need to completely resolve the issue, but for healing to start to take place the trauma needs to be acknowledged.

Get the Point! Things in life are nearly never as simple as the experts tell you. Back, neck and sholder pain, like other body pains are massages trying to tell us that part of our body needs attention.

Acupuncture treatments facilitate the release of energy blocks causing the pain and many times will help you release the corresponding emotional blocks. This is true healing. □

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Bad timing: New virus poses threat to fragile world economy

By PAUL WISEMAN,
JOE MCDONALD
and YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writers

This should be peak season for a 12-room hotel near the train station in the Chinese industrial hub of Wuhan. The Chinese New Year usually brings in plenty of travelers and delivers profits of around \$3,000 a month.

But the place is empty. Wuhan, the center of a deadly viral outbreak, is on lockdown. "There is not a single customer," said the hotel's owner, who gave only his surname, Cui. He still has to pay rent and his utility bills. Instead of counting his earnings, he's expecting to lose \$1,500 a month.

The outbreak arrives at a bad time for Wuhan, China and the world economy. China, with the world's No. 2 economy, was decelerating even before the coronavirus hit.

And the world economy is coping with an unexpectedly sharp slowdown in No. 7 India, which prompted the International Monetary Fund last week to downgrade its outlook for global growth this year.

The coronavirus is drawing comparisons to the SARS outbreak, which paralyzed the economies of China and Hong Kong for weeks in 2003. But what happens in China carries a lot more weight these days: In 2003, China accounted for 4% of global output. Now its share is 16%, according to the World Bank.

"A growth slowdown in China could have sizable ripple effects across Asia and the rest of the world, given the size of China's economy and its role as the key driver of global growth



A currency trader wearing a mask watches a calendar at the foreign exchange dealing room of the KEB Hana Bank headquarters in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Associated Press

in recent years," said Eswar Prasad, a Cornell University economist and former head of the International Monetary Fund's China division.

No one knows exactly how the outbreak will play out or what its economic impact will be.

Authorities are still trying to better understand the new virus. It is from the coronavirus family, which also can cause the common cold as well as more serious illnesses such as SARS.

The Chinese government has locked down Wuhan and 16 other cities in Hubei province, isolating more than 50 million people. The United States and other countries prepared Tuesday to airlift their citizens out of Wuhan. The outbreak has brought every day business to a standstill and closed down such popular tourist attractions as Beijing's former imperial palace, Shanghai Disneyland, Hong Kong Disneyland and the city's Ocean Park.

The significant decline in travel has already caused United Airlines to suspend some flights to Beijing,

Hong Kong and Shanghai, the airline said in a statement. "It's still too soon to measure what the impact is going to be from an economic perspective," said Jim Baird, chief investment officer at Plante Moran Financial Advisors.

The SARS experience offers some reason for economic optimism. That outbreak, centered in southern China, initially clobbered the Chinese economy. In the April-June quarter of 2003, China's economic growth dropped to an annual rate of 9.1% from 11.1% the previous quarter, noted economists Tommy Wu and Priyanka Kishore of Oxford Economics. But as the health crisis subsided, growth picked back up, recovering to a 10% annual rate in the second half of the year.

"From what we know, it's likely to be similar this

time," said Andy Rothman, investment strategist at Matthews Asia. "People shouldn't get panicked that growth is going to slow sharply" over a sustained period.

Still, the Chinese economy isn't the dynamo it was in the early and mid-2000s when growth routinely hit double digits.

The IMF expects China's growth to drop from 6.1% in 2019, already the slowest since 1990, to 6% this year and 5.8% next. The slowdown reflects China's difficult transition from fast

but unsustainable growth built around often-wasteful investments to steadier but less striking growth built on consumer spending by the country's growing middle class.

The Chinese economy has also been buffeted by a trade war with the United States. The two countries signed a truce earlier this month that was expected to provide some economic relief. Then the viral outbreak hit. □

ARUBA
TODAY

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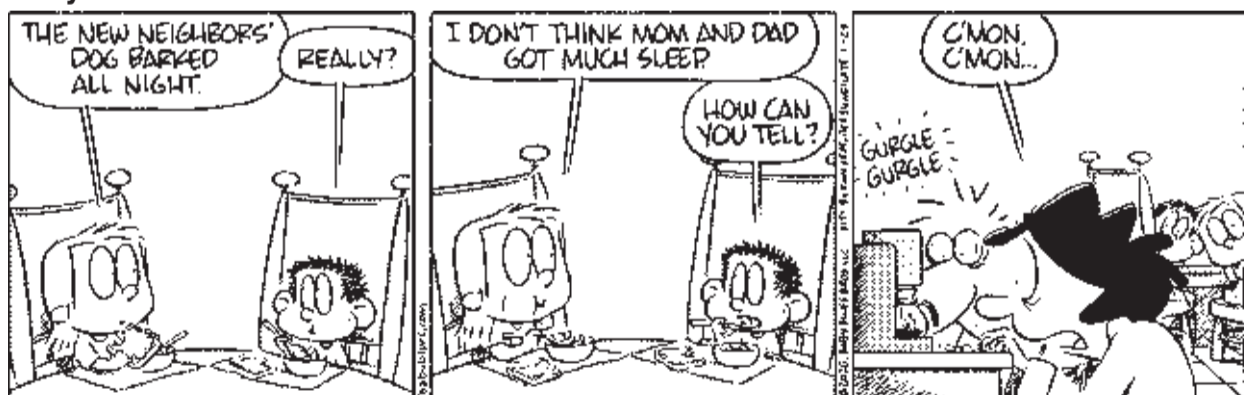
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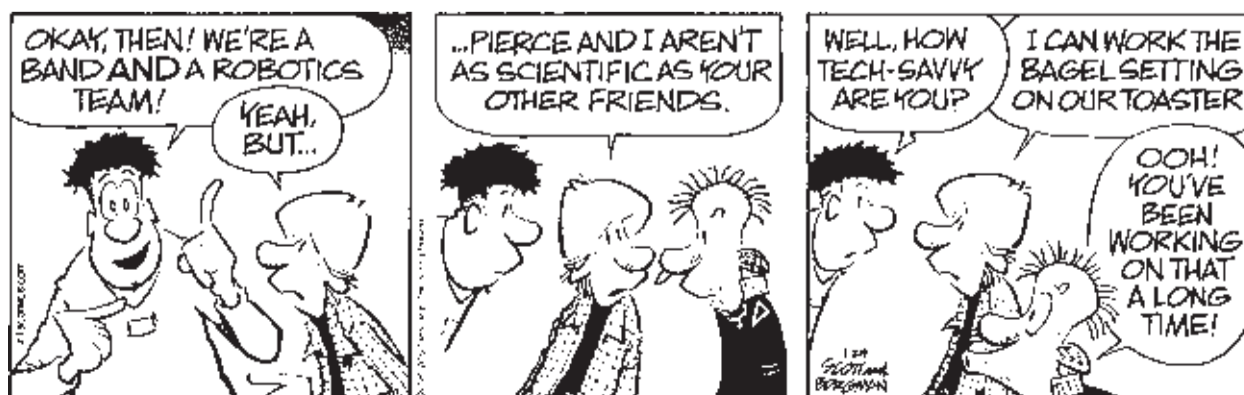
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

								1
		5	4				3	2
	9			8			7	
3	8	5	1			2		
			5			7		
4	1	3				6		8
5		9				3		4
	3			6		8		5
					1	6		

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	6	5	4	8	9	3	1	2
8	2	1	3	6	5	4	9	7
9	3	4	2	1	7	8	6	5
2	5	9	6	7	4	1	8	3
3	8	6	1	9	2	7	5	4
4	1	7	8	5	3	6	2	9
6	7	2	5	4	8	9	3	1
1	4	3	9	2	6	5	7	8
5	9	8	7	3	1	2	4	6

ACROSS

- 1 Tenth grader, for short
- 5 Babysitter's bare # to boot
- 13 Top- rabbits
- 15 In a ... hurried
- 16 Concerned
- 17 Line is it Anyway?
- 18 Too muffed to be understood
- 20 Adder's result
- 21 TV's Arthur
- 23 Humo cuts of beef
- 24 Vol rura
- 26 dy by 'ail to act
- 27 Iced pastry
- 29 Loalers
- 32 Motherless cat
- 33 Procrastinate
- 35 Sup
- 37 Peased as punier
- 38 In a playfully shy way
- 39 bloods anscorars
- 40 up until this time
- 41 Shoe parts
- 42 Tied up
- 43 Choose
- 45 No sy quarrel
- 46 Live Georgia's state tree
- 47 Breakfast side order
- 48 African ate ope
- 51 Ra bow's shape
- 52 Everyone
- 55 Mushroom
- 56 Fis of go
- 60 Fast i a ... is stumped
- 61 A single time
- 62 Foot warmers
- 63 on to, saves
- 64 Cheenos
- 65 Singers

DOWN

- 1 Sutures
- 2 Foxo's is and
- 3 Make known to many
- 4 For a, o'y good fellow
- 5 Actor Keith
- 6 into meet unexpectedly
- 7 As clear ce
- 8 Tomorrow
- 9 Fly a plane
- 10 Good-natured dogs
- 11 Gilly residue
- 12 Uno and eins
- 14 Actress Reynolds
- 19 Lacy mat under a vase
- 22 Word attached to pugs or crops
- 25 Sudden attack
- 27 Upgnt
- 28 Natalie & her dad
- 29 Troubes
- 30 Hesitancy
- 31 Heat' cuc offering
- 33 Dittail
- 34 Pup's place
- 35 Turner & Kennedy
- 38 Large parrot
- 39 Feathery scarves
- 41 Sea lions
- 42 Teen straighteners
- 44 Very rich
- 45 the birds, 'idiculous
- 47 Grimms Fairy
- 48 Eczema symptom
- 49 Internal spy
- 50 Newmar or Reser
- 53 Take a lancy to
- 54 Not as much
- 56 pedestal
- 57 Fairly honored
- 59 Burglarize



Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

1/29/20

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

SAN	ABLE	SCAM
ICES	TROVE	HORA
TEAK	TONES	ACTS
DRAMATIST	DASH	
TECH	LEE	
SHRIEK	PLEASING	
PAINT	COAST	DIE
LUNG	DAWNS	BEEN
ITS	TEPEE	PEACE
TEENAGER	LADLES	
OUR	RIND	
TORD	ARGENTINA	
AVID	DIANE	NODS
CELL	EDGAR	GAZE
KNEE	DEALS	H.E.W

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Date : 03/6 to 03/13/ 2020
\$4 K

Divi Links Golf
Studio wk 7 \$1,5 K
sleep 4 date ;02/15 to 02/22/
2020

For Sale

Marriott Ocean Club
Platinum
1 BR Ocean View \$ 10 K
1 BR Ocean Front \$20 K
2 BR Ocean View \$17 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$26 K
Marriott Surf Club
Platinum
2 BR Ocean View \$ 17 K
2 BR Ocean Side \$ 18 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$ 26 K
3 BR Ocean View \$ 26 K

Aruba Divi Phoenix
1 BR WK 2
building 8 Ground floor
32 weeks remain \$17 K
1 BR WK 8 \$15 K
building 6 on the 4th floor
27 weeks remain
Aruba Divi Phoenix
1 BR PH WK 8/9 \$20 K both
14th floor 32/22 weeks remain
1 BR WK 11
building 7 on the 3th floor
33 weeks remain \$15 K
Divi Links Golf
1 BR wk 1/2/3
Birdie 2 on the 3rd floor
25 weeks remain on each
All 3 weeks together 30 K each

Divi Links Golf
Studio WK 2 \$7.5 K
eagle 3 with 32 weeks remain
1 BR WK 3 \$8.5 K
eagle 3 with 23 weeks remain
Studio wk 5 , 7 and 8 \$8 K each
Birdie 4 with 28/27/29 weeks
remain

Divi Links Golf
2 BR WK 3 \$ 20 K
Eagle 8 with 25 weeks remain
2 BR wk 3 Lock out \$20 K
Birdie 9 26 weeks remain

Divi Links Golf \$8 K
1 Br Wk 4 Birdie 1
19 weeks remain
1 BR WK 6 Birdie 1 \$8 K

Dutch Village

1 BR wk 7/8 \$9 K each
15 weeks remain each
2 BR wk 7 \$18 K each
25 weeks remain
Studio WK 1 \$7.5 K
Ground Floor 33 weeks remain
Divi Village
1 BR WK 1 \$8.5 K
Studio wk 1 \$7.5 K
building D& F 25 weeks remain
each

Divi Links Golf
Studio wk 1 \$7.5 K
building 4 with 28 weeks remain
Paradise Beach Villas
1 BR WK 1 & 2 \$20 K both
weeks

2sd floor poo/ocean view
Divi Links Golf
1 BR wk 8 & 9 \$9.5 K each
eagle 9 with 27/19 weeks
remain

Renaissance Suites
1 BR WK # 9 \$ 8 K
4 rd floor overlook
Harbor Ocean View
1 BR WK # 11 \$9 K
3rd floor pool/ocean

Eagle Resorts
1 BR WK 2 \$8 K
1 BR WK 5,6,7,8
Ground floor \$8 K each
1 BR WK 7/8/9 \$8 K each
Caribbean Palm Village
1 BR WK 2 6 K
1 BR /2 BR wk 3 \$ 7 K
1 BR WK 3/4 \$6 K each
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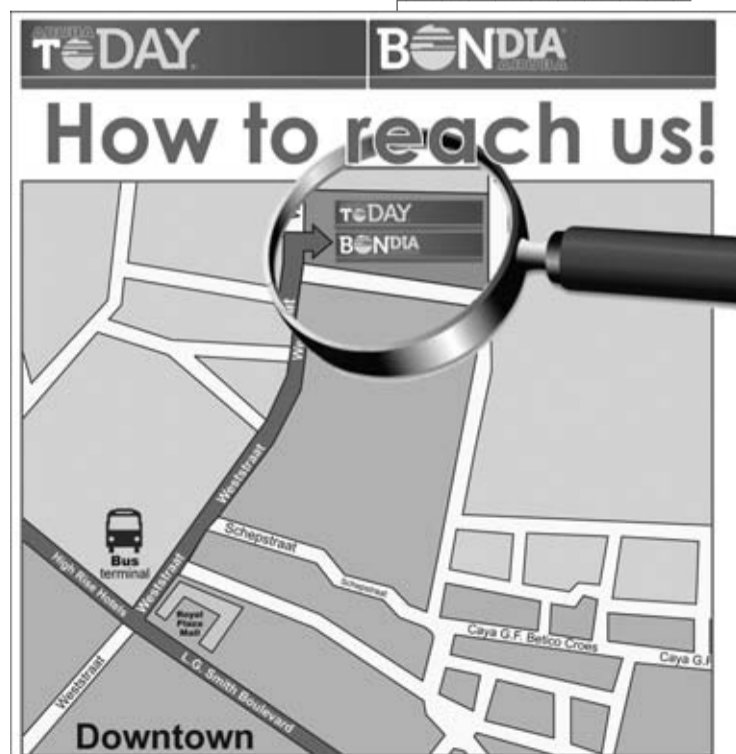
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Northeast governors slow to embrace regional climate pact

By **MICHAEL CASEY**

Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) —

Supporters of a regional pact that would tackle transportation emissions are struggling to win over several New England governors concerned that the climate change initiative will increase gas prices.

After the Transportation and Climate Initiative was announced last month, New Hampshire's Republican Gov. Chris Sununu said the state won't join, citing fears of a gas price hike. Vermont's Republican Gov. Phil Scott said he couldn't support the initiative if it amounts to a tax on carbon. A spokesman for Maine's Democratic Gov. Janet Mills said states like Maine have unique transportation issues and will be "appropriately cautious."

The initiative is aimed at a dozen Northeast and mid-Atlantic states and would take effect in 2022. It would address pollution from transportation — which represents 40% of greenhouse gas emissions in the region, the largest source of emissions. The area has tens of millions of registered vehicles.

New Jersey has not committed to implementing the initiative while a spokesman for Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont said his administration was still examining it. Virginia is also reviewing the draft memorandum.

"I am happy to see that other Governors are following my lead in rightfully sounding the alarm on this new gas tax," Sununu said in a statement. "New Hampshire is proof that the best environmental stewardship can be achieved without massive tax schemes." Many of the states are already part of the Regional

Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which covers 10 states in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic and targets emissions from the power sector.

the region could climb by five cents to 17 cents per gallon in 2022, when the pact would take effect. Among the pact's op-

"This is the incremental change, it would be over 12 years. This is just using a well-meaning effort as a whipping boy."

touted the pact in his State of the Commonwealth address last week as part of his plan for the state to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Other governors also appear supportive.

J.J. Abbott, press secretary for Pennsylvania Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf, said the state was "committed to being a part of the TCI conversations," but would make no decision on joining "until the program is fully designed." Josh Block, a spokesman for Rhode Island's Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo, said she is "fully committed to the goals of the Transportation Climate Initiative," but that the specific statutory and regulatory changes needed to meet those goals "will be the source of public discussion and input over the coming year."

Jordan Stutt, the carbon programs director of the Acadia Center, an environmental research and advocacy nonprofit, said states understand the need to address transport emissions.

The initiative could also help improve air quality, boost economies and improve transport, especially in rural areas, he said.

According to information on the TCI website, modeling has showing public health benefits of as much as \$10 billion annually by 2032, including over 1,000 fewer premature deaths. It would also generate up to \$7 billion annually that could be invested into expanding transport choices for rural, urban and suburban communities.

"Without any viable alternative to this program, the states will not be able to achieve their climate goals," Stutt said. □



In this April 10, 2019, file photo, rush-hour traffic heads east, left, and west, right, along the Schuylkill Expressway in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Under the Transportation and Climate Initiative, wholesale fuel companies would be required to purchase pollution allowances at auction. The sale of those allowances could generate billions for states to invest in carbon-reducing transportation options — like electric buses, electric car charging stations, bike lanes and sidewalks.

The initiative could lead to emissions reductions in the region by as much as 25% by 2032. But the opposition appears to be around a potential gas price hike. If fuel companies pass the cost of the allowances onto consumers, the price of gas in

ponents is Americans for Prosperity, the advocacy group founded by the billionaire Koch brothers. The group's New Hampshire chapter came out against the TCI the same day as Sununu, calling the initiative a top-down government mandate that would "punish hardworking Granite Staters."

Supporters of the initiative said the fears over gas prices are overblown and ignore the agreement's potential benefits.

"Personally I think this is political grandstanding," said Timmons Roberts, a professor of environmental studies at Brown University.

But Roberts and others acknowledge that the pact needs to address the concerns of low-income and working families who must drive long distances for work or school.

"Some people positively opt into this lifestyle, but many don't. They live where they live because of family, lack of economic mobility, or other factors," said Jason Veysey, the deputy director for the Stockholm Environment Institute's energy modeling program.

"People who have to drive may be negatively affected by an increase in fuel prices," he said. "However, it's worth underlining that TCI is supposed to be a cap-and-dividend program, in which higher costs for the most vulnerable are mitigated by the dividends."

The pact has been praised by many of the region's business, health and environmental leaders, including Massachusetts Republican Gov. Charlie Baker. He

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Jerry Craft, Kadir Nelson win honors for children's books

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

This combination of photos shows "New Kid" by Jerry Craft, a graphic novel about a 7th grader's struggle to adjust to a private school with little diversity, left, and "The Undeclared," by Kadir Nelson, a poetic tribute to African American history, featuring the words of Kwame Alexander. Craft's "New Kid," won the John Newbery Medal for the year's best children's book. Nelson won the Randolph Caldecott Medal. (Quill Tree Books, left, / Verify via AP)

NEW YORK (AP) — Jerry Craft's "New Kid," a graphic novel about a 7th grader's struggle to adjust to a private school with little diversity, has won the John Newbery Medal for the year's best children's book. "New Kid" also received the Coretta Scott King Award for an outstanding work by an African American writer.

Kadir Nelson won the Randolph Caldecott Medal for his illustration of "The Undeclared," a poetic tribute to African American history, featuring the words

of Kwame Alexander. "The Undeclared" was also a runner-up for the Newbery prize, won by Alexander in 2015 for "The Crossover," and won the Coretta Scott King prize for best illustrated book. The prizes were announced Monday by the American Library Association during its annual mid-winter meeting, held this year in Philadelphia.

Other winners include A.S. King's "Dig," named the outstanding young adult novel, and Colson Whitehead's novel "The Nickel Boys," cited as one of 10 books for adults that appealed to young people. Lifetime achievement prizes were given to Kevin Henkes, whose books include "Kitten's First Full Moon," and Steve Sheinkin, author of such historical works as "The Port Chicago 50" and "The Notorious Benedict Arnold."

Carlos Hernandez's "Sal and Gabi Break the Universe" was the Pura Belpré Author Award winner for an outstanding Latino writer. Rafael Lopez received the Belpré illustrator prize for "Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Pi-



Puerto Rican singer Ricky Martin, who will perform in concert starting next Feb. 7 at the Puerto Rico Coliseum Jose Miguel Agrelot, poses for a portrait in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020. Associated Press

ano for President Lincoln." American Indian Youth Literature awards were given to "Bowwow Powwow: Bagosenjige-niimi'idim" and illustrator Jonathan Thunder for best picture book and to "Hearts Unbroken," written by Cynthia Leitich Smith, for best young adult book.

Some writers from the out-

side book world also were honored. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor won the Schneider Family Book Award for books that "embody an artistic expression of the disability experience." Her book, "Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You," illustrated by Rafael López, was inspired in part on her battle with diabetes.

George Takei of "Star Trek" fame shared a prize for best young adult literature by an author of Asian Pacific background. He, Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott co-wrote "They Called Us Enemy," a graphic memoir based on Takei's being held in a detention camp for Japanese Americans during World War II. □

'American Dirt' Latino backlash part of long publishing war

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS
Associated Press

During a trip to Mexico to visit family, writer Myriam Gurba took "American Dirt," a novel about immigration and cartel violence that was being touted as one of the biggest U.S. releases of 2020. The writer was of mostly white descent, and Gurba felt the book didn't ring true. "I was reading the book in Parque Revolución in Guadalajara. I'd look up and see real Mexico," said Gurba, of Long Beach, California. "I'd look down back at the book and see fake Mexico."

Since before its publication, "American Dirt," by Jeanine Cummins, garnered suspicion and criticism from many Latino writers and activists at the same time — and partly

because — it was being heralded by many in the book community as a vital new work on the Southern border crisis. It was praised by novelist Don Winslow as a modern "Grapes of Wrath." The novel has become a flashpoint in debates over who gets published, how reputations are formed, and who can tell which stories in an industry — from publishers and editors to booksellers and agents — that is predominantly white.

Nicolas Kanellos, founder and publisher of Houston-based Arte Publico Press, the largest publisher of Hispanic literature in the U.S., said a lot of the anger stems from the exclusion of Latino writers by major publishers. "This has been going on for decades and these New York publishers

don't get it," said Kanellos. Cummins, author of three previous books, has faced criticism for previously identifying as white but mentioning her Puerto Rican grandparent as the novel got closer to publication. "You don't get to bring out your Puerto Rican abuela when it's convenient," said Daisy Hernández, a Colombia American writer who teaches writing at Miami University of Ohio and wrote a 2014 memoir, "A Cup of Water Under My Bed."

In the past, some white writers have received acclaim for their portrayal of Latinos in the U.S. Edna Ferber, a Michigan-born Jewish novelist, was widely admired by some Latinos for her portrayal of Mexican Americans in her 1952 novel "Giant." She inter-

viewed civil rights leaders Dr. Hector P. Garcia and John J. Herrera in her research into discrimination in Texas. John Steinbeck enjoyed a following among Mexican Americans for his stories set in Northern California. And in 1974, California-born John Nichols was praised for his novel "The Milagro Beanfield War," which explored the complicated relationship between Hispanics and whites in northern New Mexico and the battle over water rights.

Others, like T. C. Boyle and D.H. Lawrence, faced criticism for stereotypical portrayal of Latinos. Bernadine Hernández, an English professor at the University of New Mexico, said that since those earlier books, colleges have



This cover image released by Flatiron Books shows "American Dirt," a novel by Jeanine Cummins.

Associated Press introduced Chicano Studies and created a more critical Latino reading audience.

Continued on Page 31

'Minari,' a Korean immigrant drama, breaks out at Sundance

By JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — After the premiere of "Minari" at the Sundance Film Festival, while many in the audience were still drying their eyes, director Lee Isaac Chung quoted the author Willa Cather to explain how he had come to write a film based on his childhood, when his Korean family moved to rural Arkansas. "Life began for me when I

ceased to admire and began to remember." Chung's memories, he said, started pouring out of him. A family drama began to form for the 41-year-old filmmaker about his upbringing in Arkansas. About his parent's struggle as immigrants in a strange new land. About his father's hard-fought attempts to start a small farm. About his tender but comic relationship with his grandmother.



Director Lee Isaac Chung, left, and Steven Yeun pose for a portrait to promote the film "Minari" at the Music Lodge during the Sundance Film Festival on Monday, Jan. 27, 2020, in Park City, Utah. Associated Press

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MON-THU 7:50

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"I wanted to shape the narrative to have different pockets of how this family might not make it, might not survive," Chung said in an interview the morning after the film's premiere in Park City. "Those were the tensions I was playing with. Each family member kind of has their turn, their shot at growth and maturation. It wasn't a traditional narrative of one hero but more: How do I make the whole family the hero?"

"Minari" has been an unquestionable high point to this year's Sundance, a breakout critical hit that with exquisite tenderness and simple beauty brings to life a classic immigrant tale and a compassionate family drama. The film, an American production with dialogue mostly in Korean, has some heavyweight backers. It was produced by Plan B Productions (Brad Pitt is an executive producer), and independent distributor A24 is releasing it later this year.

While low in budget, "Minari" is the kind of non-English film -- personal, authentic -- that might have once stood little chance of getting made. But independent filmmakers and labels like Neon and A24 have been pushing those

boundaries, and movies like "The Farewell" and "Parasite" have proven there's a wide American audience for them.

Steven Yeun, the Korean-born actor who plays the father in "Minari," has been working to great acclaim on both sides of the Pacific. The "Walking Dead" actor won best supporting actor from numerous critics groups for 2018's exceptional Korean mystery drama "Burning." He was the first to sign on "Minari."

"Sometimes identity become a focal point of how to approach the other or a difference in how we see Americans," said Yeun, sitting alongside his director. "I've read many scripts about families of immigrants. A lot of the time, they're explanatory or they're catering to an audience that's not even of themselves. When it does that, it loses its authenticity and romanticizes in some ways, idealizes in other ways. When I read the script, I was like: This is unabashedly a truthful telling of these human beings."

Chung, who was born in Denver and whose four previous films include his Rwanda-set debut "Munyangabo," specifically credited Plan B producer

Christina Oh for wanting to keep "Minari" true to Chung's experience. "She was always clear: Let's make this as Korean as possible," Chung said. "At the same time, it's a low-budget film so we were allowed to take a risk that I don't big-budget films would have been allowed to."

Chung's parents were at the premiere of "Minari," as were Yeun's, making for a very emotional evening. Chung called it cathartic for him and his parents. "They feel like I understand what they went through," he said. "I've noticed a shift in the way we talk to each other."

Yeun described a similar journey in playing the father, Jacob. "At times I warred with playing him in a cliché so we could cater to a larger message, or playing him a very specific, individual way. Obviously, the right choice is as an individual. But it was humbling to know I had to go through that journey to see my dad truly," Yeun said.

"Sitting next to my dad, everyone was crying after the movie but as I was getting up, I just put my hand on him. And then it was over." □

Ricky Martin finds inspiration in Puerto Rico protests

By DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Ricky Martin's wide smile began to fade as the Puerto Rican superstar talked about his next album.

It's influenced by the U.S. territory's political turmoil as people struggle to recover from Hurricane Maria and a recent 6.4 magnitude earthquake that killed one person and destroyed hundreds of homes amid a 13-year recession.

"I'm going to use my music to carry the message of all those who aren't being heard," he told The Associated Press on Monday while preparing for a concert on his native island.

The 48-year-old father of four children joined in the big demonstrations last year that led Ricardo Rosselló to resign as the island's governor, and although he hasn't been at the most recent protests against current Gov. Wanda Vázquez, he has gone on social media urging her to step down.

"It would be an act of justice for our island," he said in a video Thursday. "There are no immediate legal mechanisms for you and your entire team to leave and pay for all our suffering. But I have good news.

The elections come in November and I am certain, certain, that the people will rise up more than ever."

Martin's upcoming album is not the one he originally envisioned. He said he was going through a very romantic period in his life when he began recording, but all that changed when the 2019 protests in Puerto Rico erupted. The demonstrations were fed by anger over corruption and over the way the government responded to Hurricane Maria, the September 2017 storm that wreaked havoc on the island, killing an estimated 2,975 people in its aftermath.

Martin participated in the demonstrations alongside other artists and found a new idea for the album.

"When I returned to the studio, everything that I had done musically expired because I had poetic material in my head to share with the world after what happened in the streets of Puerto Rico," he said.

Martin said the album will be titled "Movimiento" and will contain 12 songs.

"In all of them, I will in some way express everything that I experienced," he said, alluding to the demonstrations. "All of the stories I heard from people



Puerto Rican singer Ricky Martin, who will perform in concert starting next Feb. 7 at the Puerto Rico Coliseum Jose Miguel Agrelot, poses for a portrait in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Monday, Jan. 27, 2020. Associated Press

who simply were not being heard."

One of the album's songs is the newly released single "Tiburones," which means "sharks" in Spanish. The video was shot in Puerto Rico and shows a woman face to face with police in riot gear. Around her neck is a green kerchief that Martin said was the actress' idea to wear and one he fully supports since it symbolizes the fight for a woman's right to have an abortion.

"What I've always wanted is a woman to have the right to do whatever she wants with her body," he said. "I'm always going to defend that."

Some have criticized Martin's involvement in the 2019 protests and his recent comments regarding the current government's response to the earthquake and strong aftershocks, accusing him of being an opportunist and of riling people up only to leave the

island afterward. Others have posted online messages asking that he stay out of the island's affairs. Martin remains unfazed.

"I shouldn't be interested in Puerto Rico because I don't live in Puerto Rico?" he asked. "To the contrary. I believe that not being on the island has made me appreciate my culture more, appreciate my people more, my language, my music, where I come from." □

'American Dirt' Latino backlash part of long publishing war

Continued from Page 29

"It's also coming at a time when Latinos are more sensitive and critical readers," she said. "We can go to social media and express it."

Gurba accused the big publishers of "librotrafficking," comparing them to a cartel that controls who gets to tell Latino stories. Her scathing review of "American Dirt," in which she accuses Cummins of appropriating works by Latinos, went viral.

"American Dirt," published last week, tells the story of a Mexican woman and her 8-year-old son fleeing to the U.S. border after a drug cartel kills the rest of their family. It has been



In this Jan. 7, 2020 file photo, actress Salma Hayek attends the world premiere of "Like a Boss" at the SVA Theatre in New York. Hayek is apologizing for promoting a controversial new novel, Jeanine Cummins' "American Dirt," without actually reading it. Numerous Mexican-American writers have called "American Dirt" an ill-informed narrative about Mexico that reinforces stereotypes.

Associated Press

in the top 10 on Amazon.com for the past week, and has been praised by

authors ranging from John Grisham and Stephen King to noted Latina authors

Erika Sanchez and Sandra Cisneros.

Then Oprah Winfrey offered one of publishing's most cherished honors: endorsement for her book club. Some Latino celebrities posted selfies with the book; Mexican-born actress Salma Hayek later apologized for promoting "American Dirt" without having read it after she was attacked on social media.

In a video posted last weekend on Instagram, Winfrey said she now realizes the book struck "an emotional chord" with Latinos and created a need for deeper conversation. Winfrey wants to hold a discussion on the politics of publishing for an Apple

TV special in March.

In a statement, Sanchez, author of "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter," said Monday that she blurbbed the book only after she saw that Cummins identified as Puerto Rican. "What's resulted is not at all what I expected, obviously," Sanchez said, adding that she was taking a break from social media. Latino critics say "American Dirt" contains stereotypes, incorrect regional slang, and cultural inaccuracies.

Still, Latino anger hit a crescendo on social media after Gurba posted an image of a release party from last year that featured barbed wire centerpieces. □

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